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Saturday November 1 1997

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Pleat's guide to player motivation

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Defence scorns guilty verdict

Campaign to free Woodward begins

Joanna Coles in Cambridge, Massachusetts

LAWYERS for Louise Woodward immediately set to work last night on *pulling out* every legal stop to try to reverse or possibly reduce the life sentence she received yesterday after being found guilty of *second degree murder*.

Next week they will file motions asking either for a direction that she is not guilty, a new trial, or that the murder conviction be reduced to a lesser offence.

The defence's decision yesterday followed extraordinary scenes in the Massachusetts courtroom where the 19-year-old nanny was handed a mandatory life sentence.

When asked by the judge if she had anything to say Woodward replied: "I'd just like to maintain my innocence. I never hurt Matty. I would never hurt Matty. I don't know what happened to him. *I am not responsible for* his death."

Shortly afterwards, as her dazed parents looked on, she was escorted from the emo*tional courtroom*, where Matthew's parents had just read out a moving tribute to their son, to begin life in prison with the prospect of serving 15 years before being considered for parole.

As neighbours and friends in the Woodwards' home town of Elton in Cheshire *vowed to launch a campaign* to free Louise, her parents broke their silence for the first time last night on ITV's The Big Story.

Protesting her daughter's innocence, Sue Woodward, aged 40, said: "I won't stop fighting for her while I've got a breath left in my body. For she's an innocent, an innocent child. And they've made a horrendous mistake."

A bitter Gary Woodward said: "I just couldn't believe that those 12 people had made a decision like that. Had they looked at the evidence? Had they thought about it? Obviously not. I think they just went with their emotions, instead of studying facts, like they were instructed to do."

On Tuesday prosecution and defence will be given an hour to argue their case before Judge Hiller Zobel.

The defence has to convince the judge the jury's verdict was "manifestly against the evidence and the interests of justice".

It is not entitled to rely on any new evidence but can argue in favour of all three options and the judge will then decide which course to follow. Or he could simply throw out the motion.

Legal sources in the US said the filing of such motions was *not unusual in such major* trials. It is unusual for them to be granted. Judge Zobel has granted such applications three times in his career.

If the bid is rejected, the defence has an automatic right of appeal against conviction to the Appeal Court without needing the leave of the judge.

If the judge were to grant a retrial it could only be on a charge of second degree murder or a lesser charge if the prosecution decided not to try *again for a murder* conviction.

Louise has been cleared of first degree murder and cannot be tried for that again.

Last night prosecutor Gerry Leone said of the defence challenge: "We feel this woman received a very fair trial with a competent, comprehensive defence, and the jury took a very long time looking at the evidence and deliberating and returning a fair and just verdict. We don't expect any change in the status of this case."

Meanwhile, it was reported that the four alternate jurors who sat through the entire evidence but were eliminated by lottery from making the *final verdict, were said to be* so incensed by the decision they started hurling furniture around the jury room. They thought she should have been found not guilty.

According to American law, the verdict in a murder trial must be unanimous. A majority verdict would have resulted in a hung jury and a re-trial.

Mr Scheck highlighted his fears that the massive pre-trial publicity might have prejudiced his client's case. Unlike Britain, where once a *defendant has been charged*, the media are not allowed to comment on the case, the American media enjoy a legal free-for-all.

*Though the jurors all ad*mitted, during their selection, that they had been influenced by unfavourable media comment on the case, they had promised him they were capable of discarding com*ment and judging the case* purely on the facts. Mr Scheck said this alone might be grounds for an appeal.

He added that he was disap*pointed that the four men*, all highly educated, had been left out of the decision-making process because he felt they would have weighed the com*plex medical evidence fairly*. Although he did not actually confirm he thought the jury too stupid to understand the evidence, he stressed his disappointment again and again.

Before sentence was passed, *Sunil and Deborah Eappen*, as parents of the victim, were allowed to make an "impact statement", a recent court innovation designed to let relatives of victims have an impact on discretionary sentencing. In a lengthy and moving tribute, Mrs Eappen talked of Mathew as a "happy, smiley *baby*" the *Winnie the Pooh* to her other son's Tigger. She had written him a letter last Christmas, intended for him to read as an adult, telling him how much she loved him and how much joy he had brought the couple.

She told the court how the Eappen's remaining son, Brendan, kept asking what death was, and "where was *heaven?*" *They had let off* balloons on Matthew's birthday to reach their second child, somewhere in the sky.

Through the tribute the Woodwards stared ahead, stoic in their misery. They were allowed half an hour with their daughter before she was taken back to Framingham maximum security jail, where she will serve most of her sentence.

Broken lives in camera's harsh glare, pages 2 and 3; Leader comment and Mark Lawson, page 8; Anthony Julius, The Week, page 17

What the judge can do

- Overturn conviction
- Order retrial
- Invite defence to make case for reducing charge to manslaughter
- Uphold conviction

A distraught Louise Woodward is comforted by her defence team after the jury found her guilty of second degree murder PHOTOGRAPH: TED FITZGERALD

'It was beyond our comprehension that our Matty was dying because someone we trusted had hurt him'
Deborah Eappen

'I never hurt Matty . . . I didn't kill Matthew Eappen. That's all I want to say'
Louise Woodward

Lawyers weep, reporters pale, a frightened girl howls

Mark Lawson

FOR anyone who watched it as it happened, the mo*ment of* Louise Woodward's conviction in Boston will be for ever stored in their personal slide-file of television pictures you wish you'd *never had to see*.

The verdict came just after 2.30am British time, when the BBC is off air. And so it was Sky News which transmitted the live American Court TV coverage.

The soundtrack was the worst of it — the howling protestations of innocence from the unseen Woodward, in a huddle of expensively suited lawyers' arms — but the impact was increased by the faces you could you see on the screen.

Defence lawyers and television reporters have a lot in common. Both are paid to tell any story they are asked to without giving away what they really think. But, in the moments after the verdict, neither profession could obey *its training*.

One lawyer pressed his big hand to his face like a handkerchief. Another was visibly weeping. In London, Sky presenter Laurie Mayer went pale and quiet. Outside the courtroom, reporter Jeremy Thompson twice seemed to rub his eye. At a pub in Woodward's home village, Garry Cotteril began his report with the words: "I'm paid to be im*partial, but . . .*"

TV does not like silence — and Sky TV likes it even less than most — but, for those few minutes in the middle of the night, the silence was allowed to dominate, broken only by the keening of a frightened teenage girl.

Another tradition of broadcasting is that the presenters should seem to understand what is happening. At 2.30am *yesterday* — and *again*, 12 hours later, during the byzantine sentencing hearing — confusion frequently reigned. This was technically unprofessional but honest to the twists and emotions of the story.

In its bias towards the home side — the baby's stricken parents were virtually preceded on to screen by hissing — the coverage owed more to football than current affairs. But what odds might you have got against lawyers and TV reporters being proved to be human on the same night?

Short to end discredited aid and trade programme

David Hencke
Westminster Correspondent

BRITAIN'S £73 million a year aid and trade programme, discredited after being *linked to arms* sales and the illegal funding of Malaysia's Pergau dam, is to be abolished next week.

Clare Short, the International Development Secretary, will announce the decision on Wednesday when she publishes the first white paper on overseas aid policy for nearly 20 years.

The decision to replace the programme with development aid concentrating on the relief of poverty without damaging the environment follows a tense Whitehall battle *between Ms Short's* ministry, the Department of Trade and Industry and the Treasury.

It is certain to be welcomed by aid charities and campaigning groups from the World Development Movement.

Companies which build large power stations, dams, roads, railways and communication systems have been the main beneficiaries of the aid and trade programme, which can contribute a third of the cost of projects costing *as much as* £300 million. Many of the contracts were won in competition with the French, Germans and Americans, who also offered subsidies. Companies had been lobbying the DTI to retain the funds.

Ms Short persuaded Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, to agree to the abolition of the programme.

*Gordon Brown, the Chan*cellor, has also backed Ms *Short's case to abolish the* programme after internal reviews revealed that the benefits of aid funded by the taxpayer were not clear-cut, as *sometimes the prices* charged for equipment were higher than unsubsidised goods.

Under the deal the DTI will be able to keep a separate programme to aid industry, but the money will have to come from the ministry's existing resources, and the Government will not support schemes which break Labour's "ethical" foreign policy. This means that projects that damage the environment, exploit workers or infringe human rights will not be supported.

All schemes approved by the last government will be honoured, allowing the cash allocated to be phased out over the next three years.

The programmes have been heavily criticised for the environmental damage they do to developing countries, from destroying virgin rainforest to creating widespread industrial pollution.

Parliament's financial watchdog, the National Audit Office, has also condemned many aspects of the aid, with a series of reports covering aid to India, Indonesia, Turkey and Malaysia raising criticisms of management and the suitability of some of the aid.

Embarrassment of riches

Pergau dam: Britain gave £300 million to build dam in remote Malaysian rainforest. Court ruled aid was illegal after Government admitted it broke guidelines and was linked to arm sales. *Turkish universities: Britain gave £66 million to re-equip 33 universities.* National Audit Office concluded scheme badly managed and money wasted. Indonesia: Britain supported projects equipping radio stations and police. NAO report raised spectre that aid might have been linked to arms deals and *questioned value of projects.* India: Schemes from power stations to dams criticised by NAO for damaging environment.

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The Guardian Saturday November 1 1997

A tale of broken lives played

Joanna Coles witnesses the drama of a Massachusetts courtroom shocked and spellbound by a verdict that few had dared to predict

AT ONE time people talked of the book and the movie deal of the Woodward case but Hollywood could never improve on this drama.

In those few desolate moments as Louise Woodward tried to protest her innocence before faltering and breaking down unable to continue, the court was frozen, unable to move.

Less than 10 feet behind their daughter, her parents Sue and Gary appeared catatonic with pain, staring blindly ahead as if they might have been in another place altogether. Which perhaps they were.

And of course, less than 20 feet away, sat the Eappens, Matthew's parents, strangely glazed and clearly distraught. Deborah, her face swollen with grief, also stared straight ahead as if forced to participate in some terrible, grotesque charade.

In her aptly named impact statement, she recalled Matthew's "black silky hair and chocolate eyes" — he was Winnie-the-Pooh to his brother's Tigger. A "happy smiley baby". And who could not shudder when she told how, just one week before Matthew's death, the Eappens had marvelled at how blessed their lives appeared to be. They owned their home, had both finished their medical residencies, and had two lovely children.

But how ominous those words sounded in court, how vulnerable the Eappens seemed. This happy couple one minute counting their blessings, the next being forced to decide when to switch off their baby son's life support machine.

"I think she has done a horrible thing," said Sunni Eappen quietly, referring to the silent girl sitting so near them. "We will forever view our world with darker glasses."

Does the defendant want to say anything, the judge managed to croak, looking oddly vulnerable himself from behind his podium.

"I'd just like to maintain my innocence," she whispered. "I never hurt Matty, I would never hurt Matty. I don't know what happened to him. I'm not responsible for his death."

But it was the sound of her weeping the previous night, just after the verdict was announced, that will stay as the symbol of this trial. What made it even more poignant was the 13-second delay between the verdict sinking in and that first gasp of realisation that they had not believed her.

At precisely 9.41 on Thursday evening, wearing a new beige jacket her parents had bought her for what they had hoped — no, assumed — would be her acquittal, she began to shake.

"Do you find the defendant guilty or not guilty," asked the clerk of the court. "Guilty," said the foreperson flatly.

The clerk, a jolly, sympathetic man with bright black eyes, who had previously joked with court staff as they imagined the media scrum when Louise walked free, looked stunned. "Guilty of what?" he snapped, as if unable to believe it.

"Guilty of second degree murder," replied the foreperson quickly, promptly dooming Louise to a mandatory life sentence. According to Massachusetts law, unless the judge takes the exceptional decision to overturn the jury's decision or impose a lesser sentence, there is no discretion. Second degree means life and no parole until the defendant has served 15 years. Louise began to shake.

It was a terrible shake, a violent, rocking shake followed by those terrible gasps and the violent racking sobs. "I didn't do it," she exploded, collapsing into her chair. "I didn't do anything. I didn't hurt Matty!"

Always behind her, her parents sat motionless. Unable to reach her or touch her, this ordinary, down-to-earth couple who, due to financial pressures, have faced the loss of their home, sat side by side, bewildered by fate.

Supported by her lawyer Andrew Good, Louise continued to weep and the horrified courtroom seemed petrified, unable to move. No one said anything, until finally, after what seemed like hours, a female police officer touched Louise gently on the back and asked her to be quiet.

Jolted into action, the judge dismissed the jury who crept out silently. The 12 policemen brought in as extra security stood grim-faced, arms folded. And still no one could move.

"Court rise," shouted the clerk eventually, as Judge Hiller Zobel rose to his feet and swished his black robes into the ante-chamber. Only the Woodwards stayed seated. Sue, Louise's mother, attempted to rise but then collapsed back down again. Gary didn't even bother to try. He couldn't.

Louise continued to weep quietly as her flamboyant lawyer Barry Scheck, who had parachuted in as her self-proclaimed saviour last June, began presumably to reflect on his decision to refuse a compromise plea-bargain of lesser charges. He looked incomprehending.

Never had the usual journalistic cliches suddenly seemed so appropriate. The parents were grief-stricken ... the defendant was ashen-faced ... the courtroom was stunned.

Looking harassed, the judge returned after five minutes and asked if anyone objected to him postponing sentence until the morning. Mr Scheck staggered to his feet and mouthed the word No, before flopping back down. It was late and the last 24 hours had been exhausting.

To think the day had started out so confidently. Even the weather, bright and crisp, seemed to suggest a positive outcome, for the Woodwards at least. Of course there weren't exactly clues as to how the deliberations were going, but from what one could surmise from the questions the jury were asking, it was looking good.

Since beginning their examination of the evidence, early on Tuesday afternoon, the jury had passed three handwritten notes to the judge asking for more information. The first note de-

continued on page 3

The mother

Deborah Eappen's statement to the court yesterday:

"ON MAY 24, 1996, we gave birth to a healthy baby boy. We named him Matthew — gift from God. Matthew was a beautiful baby with black silky hair and rich chocolate eyes. He was a real butterball. He was so content. He made his needs known and when they were met he was happy again.

A real smiling baby, he was the object of great affection from his two-year-old brother Brendan, who proudly announced: "Brendan makes baby Matthew feel better."

And he gave Matty a toy, blanket or kiss, and Brendan watched out for Matty's safety. "I don't want you to get hurt, Matthew, because I love you."

Brendan got up in the morning and said: "Is baby Matthew awake?" He peered into his crib and nodded: "Baby Matthew is awake. Good morning, baby Matthew, I love you."

And I remember having two babies on my lap, and Brendan would say: "Let's do two boys, Mom." And I loved Matty's weight in my arms, his head on my shoulder, his hot breath tickling my neck and his gentle hand pressing my chin, and I loved to snuggle and get cosy with my two boys.

In December '96 I wrote a letter to Matthew on a card that showed a lot of kids on a sunny day in the Boston Gardens during the Dublin parade.

And I wrote: "You are really a joy, never fussy and always sweet and easy to comfort. You can tell that your personality will be calm and laid back. You are confident that your needs will be met."

I wrote how loving and protective Brendan was, how Dad adores you and how Matthew laughs a great laugh.

"Your wonderful calm spirit is one that melts my heart. I want you to know, Matthew, how special you are to us, even at such a young age."

At Christmas I gave Matthew a book called Brothers and Sisters and inscribed it with: "You have added so much joy to our family. Dad and I love your smile and giggles. You are so amusing to each other. We can feel your love as brothers is strong already.

"We are so lucky and so proud of you. You are our sunshine, Matthew." We loved this little bundle of joy, our chumber-munchkin, and we thought that life looked good, that things had fallen into place after medical school and residency, and after getting settled in our new jobs.

Only one week before February 4, Sunny and I were talking and thanking God. We are so blessed. And we dreamed of Matthew's future and of Matty running, playing ball and rough-housing.

And to wiry little Brendan we would joke: "You'd better be nice to your brother, he's going to be a lot bigger than you."

They were so beautifully different, like Tigger and Winnie-the-Pooh.

We felt happy and secure. We loved our family. I wouldn't change a thing.

On February 4, 1997, all our hopes and dreams were torn apart. Our Matty had been hurt. We soon learned our baby Matthew was dying. We couldn't believe it. It was all inconceivable. It was beyond our comprehension that our Matty was dying because someone we trusted had hurt him.

We couldn't give up hope. We wished for a miracle. We would love Matty anyway, he didn't need to be perfect.

Could he survive, with maybe half a brain? But repeated tests and CAT scans showed that there was nothing to save. The whole brain was destroyed. There would be no life for Matthew.

On February 9, we made the most painful decision of our lives. We had to let Matty go.

Matty died in our arms, surrounded by family, including his loving 2½-year-old brother Brendan.

Despite the tubes and IVs and surgical dressing covering his head, he looked to me like a little prince. Since that day, our lives have completely altered. Our hearts are heavy every day with the most excruciating pain.

How can we be accepting any of this? How can we go on? Can we be happy again?

I get flashbacks of learning this has happened to my little defenceless baby Matthew. I am sickened to think he was crying for help but was instead beaten by the hands that were supposed to be caring for him.

She didn't look scary to me. She didn't seem like a child abuser or a monster or murderer. We had no idea she would harm our kid.

I am scared now when I hear an ambulance. I have nightmares, I am afraid to answer the phone or door. We are not safe. The unspeakable has happened and now anything could happen.

My assumptions about life are now my goals; that my children will be safe, my marriage intact and my life one day happy again.

I can't end without speaking for Brendan. He was so upset by someone he cared for.

He had so many questions: "How can baby Matthew die? What is death? Where is heaven? I want baby Matthew back. I've got Matthew, here he is."

And he would cup his hands and pretend that Matthew was with us. He would look up to the stars to say good night to Matty. "I love you. How was it up in heaven today?"

Even this morning, Brendan said: "I hope Matthew liked those balloons we sent to him," reminding me of the helium balloons we set free on Matthew's birthday.

He asked the question: "Why did Louise hurt Matty? Why did Louise hit Matty's head with something hard?" And he cried and I had no answers.

And his questions will haunt me for ever. "How? What exactly happened? How long did Matty suffer. Why?"

Every day we are faced with the challenge how to go on living without Matthew. I am so grateful to those who have helped and supported us.

I am so sorry now for all the pain that everyone involved must suffer. I am hopeful that some day we will find the key."

Sunil Eappen with his wife Debbie making his statement in Middlesex Superior Court before sentence was passed

PHOTOGRAPHS: STEVEN SENNE

Louise Woodward making her statement in court yesterday

The father

Sunil Eappen's statement:

"I THINK Louise has done a horrible thing. My life, my family's life, my friends' lives have all been dramatically changed as a result of her actions, and we will for ever view our world and the people in it with darker glasses on.

I feel the jury's decision is just and the state's mandated punishment is deserved, and despite my hatred for the actions of Louise and my current disdain for her, I truly hope that she can face up to what she has done, gain forgiveness, and she may some day find the peace of God in her life again."

The nanny

Louise Woodward said:

"I WOULD just like to maintain my innocence and say I never hurt Matty. I don't know what happened to him. I am not responsible for his death. I didn't kill Matthew Eappen. That's all I want to say."

Lawyers refuse to give up hope

Clare Dyer on the choices that face the judge and the defence team in the aftermath of the trial

LAWYERS said last night there was still "light at the end of the tunnel" for Louise Woodward, who could have her conviction for second degree murder quashed by the judge next week and a lesser offence substituted.

On Tuesday her lawyers will ask Judge Hiller Zobel for a direction that she is not guilty, a new trial, or a reduction of the murder conviction to a lesser offence. The substitution of a not guilty finding is extremely unlikely, according to lawyers familiar with US criminal law.

But a reduction to a lesser offence by the judge is a possibility. In Britain the trial judge has no power to overturn the jury's verdict — only the Court of Appeal can do that — but in America this happens, though rarely, when the verdict goes against the evidence.

In Britain, judges sometimes direct juries before they begin their deliberations that the evidence cannot support a conviction of a particular offence, but once given, the jury's verdict is sacrosanct unless upset on appeal.

Michael McParland, an English barrister and member of the California Bar who has been following the case for Sky News, said: "In my opinion the evidence did not prove first or second degree murder, and I haven't found any other lawyer here or in America who thinks it did.

"This case would not have been prosecuted as a murder case in Britain. The allegation is that the Boston district attorney has used this as part of a hardline campaign to become attorney-general."

Mr McParland said the power of the judge to substitute a lesser offence provided "a light at the end of the tunnel" for Woodward. "Tuesday is a very, very important day. The judge could decide the evidence pointed to involuntary manslaughter rather than murder."

The most likely lesser offence is involuntary manslaughter, which indicates recklessness in excess of gross negligence. It would mean that Woodward was responsible for the baby's death but did not intend to kill him or cause him serious harm.

At the end of the evidence the prosecution offered to put a charge of involuntary manslaughter, which was on the original indictment, to the jury, but Woodward refused, holding out for murder or acquittal. The prosecution applied immediately to stay the trial while they appealed to the appellate court for manslaughter to go to the jury — an indication that they feared the evidence would not produce a murder conviction. This was refused.

Next Tuesday the defence will have to convince the judge that the jury's verdict was "manifestly against the evidence and the interests of justice". It can argue in favour of all three options and the judge will then decide which course to follow, or throw out the motion.

Legal sources in the US said the filing of such motions was not unusual in such big trials, but it was unusual for them to be granted.

Judge Zobel has granted such applications three times in his long career. In 1980 he reduced a second degree murder charge in a stabbing case to manslaughter. In 1984 he reduced a first degree murder conviction to a lesser charge in a shooting case, and five years ago he set aside a conviction in a rape case and ordered a retrial.

In this case he could rule immediately, but he is more likely to deliver his decision in writing later. If the attempt is rejected, the defence then has an automatic right of appeal against conviction to the appeal court.

If the judge were to grant a retrial it could only be on a charge of second degree murder or a lesser charge, most likely involuntary manslaughter. Woodward has been cleared of first degree murder, which in Massachusetts requires "extreme cruelty and atrocity", and cannot be tried for that again.

Manslaughter carries a maximum 20 year sentence, at the discretion of the judge after reading reports and statements, and assault and battery, a possible but unlikely alternative, a maximum 2½ years in a "house of correction", not a state prison.

The Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine, last night ruled out the prospect of live televising of trials in Britain. He said the spectacle of the trial reinforced his view that putting cameras in the courtroom would be a mistake.

He said he feared that televising trials would tempt witnesses into "trimming or tailoring" their evidence. "There is a great risk that the behaviour and judgment of the lawyers, the witnesses and the jury itself might be affected by the knowledge that they are participating in a live media event. There is also a serious risk that witnesses might be influenced in the evidence they give, or find undue pressure being placed on themselves or their families, as a consequence of live coverage."

Spotlight falls on denial of request for transcript

Stuart Millar

THE guilty verdict has focused attention on Judge Hiller Zobel's refusal to give the jury a transcript of evidence from the defence's key expert witness.

During hours of detailed examination on the first day of the defence case, Jan Leestma, a leading forensic pathologist specialising in brain injuries, told the trial that when Matthew Eappen died he had a brain injury that was at least three to fours weeks old.

Dr Leestma said that if a serum or a "straw-coloured liquid" were present in Matthew's brain it would indicate an earlier injury. Serum is formed after a time as blood begins to form into layers.

He told the court that two other discoveries revealed by microscopic examination of the baby's dura — inner skull — provided hard evidence that he had suffered from "re-bleeding in an old injury".

He said the existence of a third membrane — there are usually two — indicated the sub-dural clot was up to four weeks old. He asserted that he saw evidence of re-bleeding which could be assumed to have been the cause of Matthew's neurological collapse. He also told the jury he had found deposits of calcium, which — particularly in infants — are deposited weeks after an injury.

Asked by Mr Scheck what kind of event would have been necessary to trigger the fatal re-bleeding, he replied: "It may take almost nothing."

His evidence directly contradicted that of prosecution witnesses who insisted the injury was not accidental and was inflicted on the same day Matthew was taken to hospital.

On Wednesday, the judge agreed to a jury request for a transcript of graphic evidence from Joseph Madsen, the paediatric neurosurgeon who operated on Matthew. They heard how, as he started to operate, a clearish, yellowish liquid, followed by blood, spurted from the skull. Dr Madsen agreed under cross-examination that the liquid had the appearance of serum.

He also admitted he had disposed of a blood clot taken from Matthew's brain rather than sending it for tests. The defence maintained that analysis would have confirmed the existence of the previously undetected older injury.

But on Thursday, the judge refused the jury a transcript of Dr Leestma's evidence, informing them that none was available and that they would have to deliberate without it. A second note from the jury an hour later narrowing the request to only Dr Leestma's evidence on the serum was also denied.

The court also heard that at some point during Woodward's time with the Eappens, Matthew had suffered a fractured wrist which may have been up to six weeks old when it was discovered by x-ray in early February.

Although this must have caused him considerable pain, his parents appear not to have noticed.

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out in camera's harsh glare

continued from page 2

manded more clarification on the actual charges — which he reiterated briskly after scolding them for not listening better.

The second note requested the testimony of Dr Joseph Madsen, the surgeon who operated on Matthew shortly after he was rushed to Boston Children's Hospital on February 4.

But it was their third request, the desire to read a full transcript of Dr Jan Leestma's evidence, which really gave the defence hope. Dr Leestma, an expert witness and forensic neuropathologist, had told the court that the presence of a "clear or straw-coloured" liquid in Matthew's brain could indicate only one thing: an earlier injury.

After studying tissue samples from the boy's brain he concluded the baby had suffered a previous bang to the skull, the healing of which, unfortunately for Louise, caused the child to haemorrhage last February.

This point appeared to be further supported by Dr Madsen, ironically a prosecution witness, who confirmed under intense cross-examination that when he made the first incision into the baby's brain both clear and bloody liquids spurted out.

But it was not the stumbling block that Mr Scheck had hoped for. "We have been in this business 25 years," he told reporters later. "I've had clients who were not guilty ... and Louise Woodward is an extraordinary woman and she is 100 per cent not guilty."

Perhaps the jurors were influenced by the fact the defence paid Dr Leestma $450 an hour for his testimony — though this is by no means unusual in American courts. Who knows what went during the 27 hours they sat and argued over the evidence? Sometimes they called for more cigarettes as they argued, sometimes for more water. But by 6pm on Thursday evening it was clear they were near a decision because they refused the offer to retire for the night and agreed to supper in the jury room.

By 9.20pm the television monitors on the press floor, which record any sign of movement in court, flashed up images of the clerk suddenly fussing round his bench. Word went out, he was recalling the lawyers.

By 9.25pm, there were 200 reporters gathered on the 12th floor and it was obvious a verdict had been reached. The head of security announced that due to lack of sufficient seating, the judge had decreed that the press

t was the sound of her weeping the revious night, just after the verdict vas announced, that will stay as the ymbol of this trial. What made it even nore poignant was the 13-second elay between the verdict sinking in nd that first gasp of realisation that hey had not believed her

ould also be allowed to and. It was the first and nly time he had allowed it.

After the initial drama of he verdict, the defence team ppeared on the steps of the ourt and announced they ould appeal. An hour later hey had recovered suffiiently to hold a press confernce and throw their hands p. "I have no idea what went rong," said Mr Scheck ankly.

Elaine Sharpe, also part of the team, who offered to post bond for Louise and offer her accommodation if she was allowed out on bail, gave a brief tribute to Louise's strength. She was doing all right, holding up well and was on her way back to Framingham, armed only with her faith in God.

As to her parents, they had been allowed half an hour with their daughter before she returned to jail. They were strong, but going through hell. As were the defence team themselves.

Both Mr Scheck and Mr Good insisted it had been Louise's choice to refuse a plea-bargain, she was so convinced she'd be set free. They had even brought in an independent lawyer to counsel her, but both she and her parents had been resolute. They were convinced her decision to take the stand would stand in her favour, as would the results of a lie-detector test she took and passed earlier in the year.

"Louise put her faith in the system and somehow it failed her," cried Mr Good, looking positively yellow and indicating how disappointed they were with the final jury selection.

In Massachusetts, 16 jurors are required to hear all the evidence but only 12, selected by lottery, make the final decision. As four men were weeded out one after another, Mr Scheck started shaking his head and looking anxious, but it was too late to do anything about it.

Asked if the jury were simply not bright enough to understand complex medical evidence, he would say only that he was disappointed with the selection. A Harvard-educated lawyer had been bumped off, so too had an electrical engineer and a mathematical researcher.

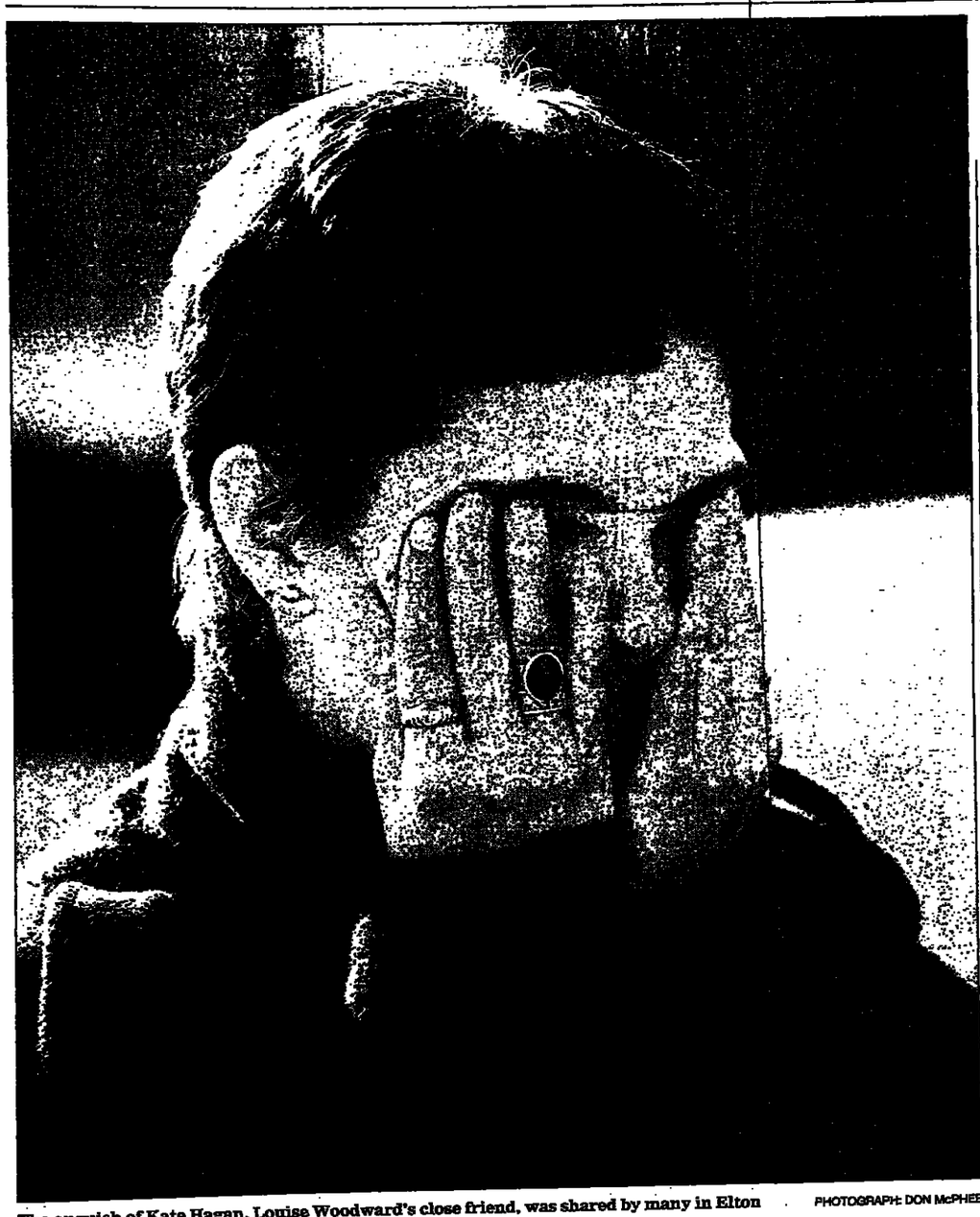
Shortly after the verdict, a court official told reporters that the four alternate jurors had been so angered by the verdict they had started hurling furniture around.

Prosecution lawyer Gerry Leone, the boy from North Boston who put himself through Harvard and then Suffolk law school, said he felt badly for the Woodward family, but that Louise "had numerous opportunities to tell the Eappens what happened and she didn't do that".

He seemed oddly depressed. Certainly, there was no sense of the lawyer who had so dramatically changed the course of the trial by his brilliant summing-up.

Asked for her reaction to Louise's tearful collapse, Martha Coakley, also prosecuting, replied: "She's maintained a denial of any kind right from the beginning. She's entitled to do that as a matter of law but she takes the consequences when the jury fails to believe her, and I'm sure it's a very sad night for her."

But it was a sad night for everyone. As the Eappens had said only the night before and would reiterate in their impact statement the following morning. Whatever the verdict, nothing would bring Matty back.



The anguish of Kate Hagan, Louise Woodward's close friend, was shared by many in Elton PHOTOGRAPH: DON McPHEE

Defiance and disbelief at verdict unite Woodwards' home village

David Ward

THE verdict prompted cries of uncomprehending torment from the women gathered in the Rigger, the pub in Louise Woodward's home village, early yesterday. But 12 hours later when the women gathered again in the packed bar for the sentencing, the news from Boston was received in silence. It was almost an anticlimax.

There was the briefest smattering of applause as Woodward rose to tell the court: "I never did hurt Matty ... I am not responsible for his death." But most of the women gathered before the big screen bowed their heads.

One wept quietly, lifting her glasses to wipe away tears. Hazel Mayamba-Kasongo, who spent the morning appealing for donations to the Woodward Appeal Fund, slowly shook her head as Deborah Eappen said in her statement that Woodward had not looked like a child abuser.

The women seemed to recoil from the un-British sweetness of Mrs Eappen's words, her references to Matthew as her real butterball, her little prince.

"I have felt genuine compassion for Mrs Eappen and I am trying to be objective," said Ms Mayamba-Kasongo, choosing her words carefully. "But it was a scripted statement with some language in it that was particularly dramatic."

The women, wearing yellow ribbons — an idea borrowed from American families who waited for hostages to come home from Iran — were unprepared for the judge's statement that the defence could apply to have the charge changed to manslaughter.

Ms Mayamba-Kasongo said: "She had several opportunities for plea-bargaining and did not take them because she didn't harm Matthew. We will not stop until Louise comes home and is totally exonerated. We know she is innocent and I would like to think that some of the jury will now think that.

"I don't think I have ever heard anyone cry with anguish like that in my entire life. That was the cry of an innocent person wronged."

If anyone in Elton, near Chester, thought Louise was guilty, no one was saying so. Villagers suggested that Louise may not have impressed 12 American jurors but she had convinced the rest of the world.

One American woman resident in Britain phoned to say she had torn up tickets for her flight home for Thanksgiving next month in disgust.

A mutinous "Not Guilty!" sign went up in the window of Jack's DIY shop, where staff were selling yellow ribbons as fast as they could make them. "That prosecutor was after a bloody Oscar," said one customer.

Near by, Kate Hagan, aged 19, celebrated the gentleness of a friend she has known since childhood.

"If only those people who are not sure whether she is guilty or not guilty knew how much of a passion she has for children ... sometimes it was a bit overpowering. This thing she is meant to have done couldn't possibly have happened.

"If you looked in that girl's eyes in the court in the days leading up to the verdict, you could see the innocence there. She didn't have to say anything. We just wait for the day for her to come home. We know it will be soon."

State prison 'no place for a girl'

Framingham is notorious, writes **Martin Kettle** in Washington

LOUISE Woodward was today beginning her life sentence for murder in Massachusetts's only all-female prison at Framingham, in the suburbs to the west of Boston.

Conditions at Framingham sum up the old penal reform adage that imprisonment would be bad enough, were it not for the state of the prisons.

It gained notoriety in the early 1990s because of poor conditions in the medical wing and the death of inmates, often drug addicts. Critics charged that the prison clinic was filthy and that complaints had been routinely ignored. "We may be inmates, but we are people too," complained a prisoner on a phone-in following one death.

Matters are said to have improved slightly in the past two or three years, but Framingham remains a byword for poor conditions. When Woodward was first remanded there earlier this year, the local mayor, Thomas Concannon, led a host of complaints that it was "no place for a 19-year-old girl".

The question now is whether Framingham is any place for the 34-year-old woman that Woodward may be before she can be considered for parole in 2012.

She will stand out in Framingham, and not just because she is English. Female murderers are rare. Their crimes are more likely to be reduced to manslaughter than those of men. And female child killers are very rare.

By the time Woodward is released, she is likely to be one of the longest serving inmates.

Most female prisoners are convicted of petty crimes such as shoplifting, cheque fraud and prostitution. Many are repeat offenders, jailed because they have exhausted all the options in the criminal justice system. A high proportion are women with no steady employment, a history of broken relationships and, in many cases, a drug dependency which drives their criminal behaviour.

Massachusetts has a policy of imprisoning all defendants convicted of serious drug offences, including first offenders. As a result, Framingham houses an increasing number of drug dealers serving mandatory minimum sentences of between 10 and 15 years.

This policy sparked furious debate in the state long before the Woodward case brought international attention to Massachusetts's sentencing policy. Supporters of mandatory minimum sentences say they act as a deterrent and show society's intolerance of drug crime. Opponents say the system lands many young people in jail for too long who should not be there in the first place.

"You could open the doors of Framingham tomorrow and most of these women would not pose a danger to soiety," said the local public helth commissioner, David Milligan.

The state has a policy of alowing a judge to send a woman to Framingham for dug rehabilitation or alcohol dtoxification at the request of doctors or police, or even relatives.

Such "civil commitment" oders are less common now tan they were a decade ago, bt they still mean that Framingham has an unusually igh proportion of inmates ith drink or drug problems.

Because there are relatively w female prisoners in merica's jails, there is less olitical or administrative ressure to reform or replace orrectional facilities". Fralingham has poor education nd vocational training esources. Work opportunies barely exist.

A committee which looked nto prison regimes for omen in Massachusetts in 992 found that the only skills aught at Framingham were lag-making, manicure and yping.

Supporters launch plea for funds to pay cost of appeal

SUPPORTERS of Louise Woodward yesterday launched an appeal for funds to help cover the cost of an appeal as her legal team promised to fight on, *writes Stuart Millar*.

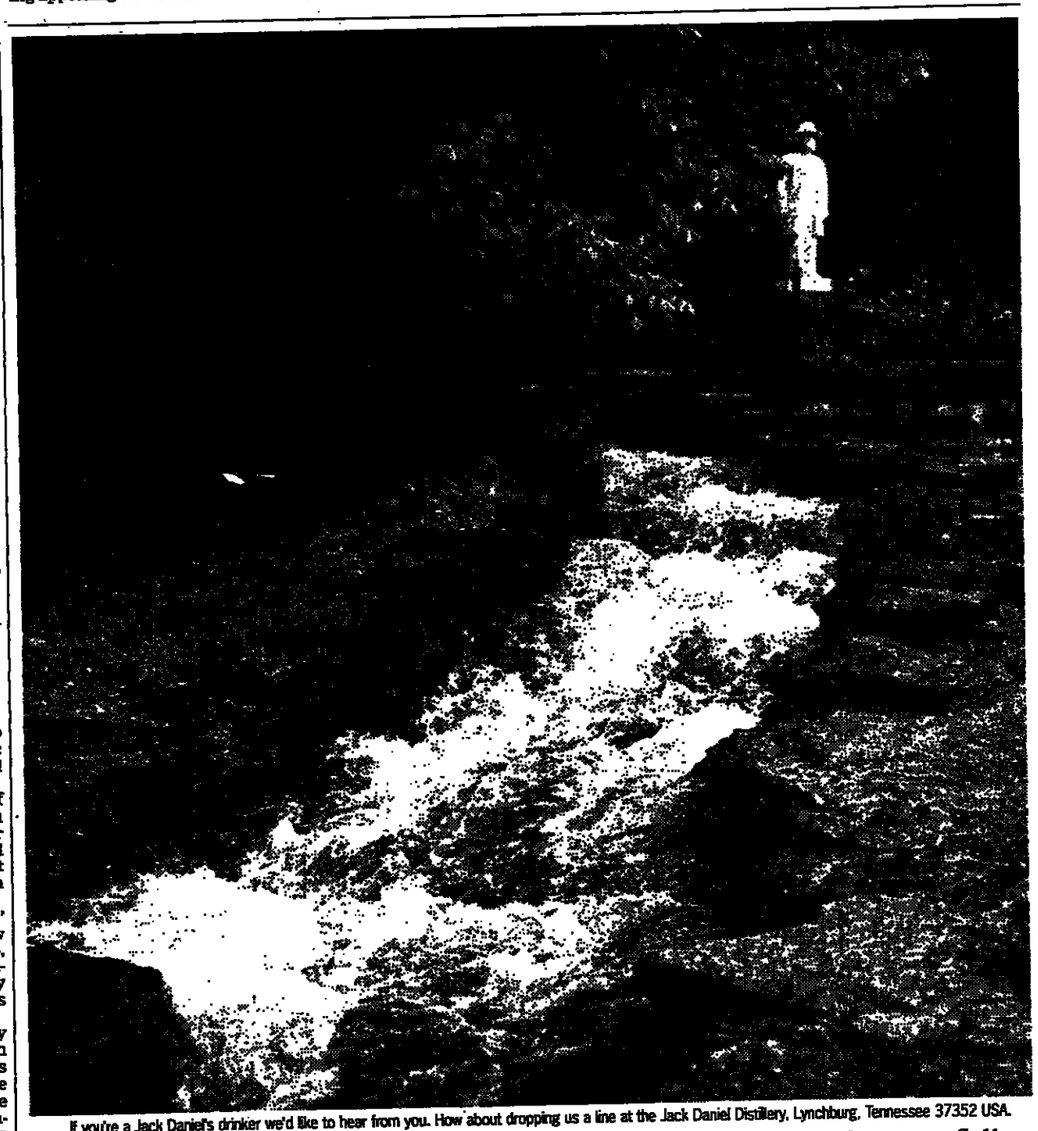
The legal bill, already estimated at around £500,000, has been paid by EF Au Pair, the American agency through which she was employed by the Eappens, in the hope that it would protect itself from a huge civil damages action brought by the Eappens.

The agency said it was footing the bill in the interest of truth and justice, but supporters fear it will be unable or unwilling to cover the cost of an appeal or a civil damages suit. It has insisted it has no liability for damages.

The bill so far includes an estimated £60,000 for the services of her defence counsel, Barry Scheck. He charges up to £250 an hour, and American lawyers said yesterday he had probably spent 150–200 hours in preparation. His co-counsels, Andrew Good and Harvey Silvergate, charge £150–£200 an hour.

It also includes £36,000 paid in fees to the six medical experts brought in to support the defence's insistence that Matthew was killed by the recurrence of a previously undetected brain injury.

In addition to the legal bill, Woodward's parents have had to cover the cost of going to Boston to support their daughter. They initially stayed in hotels, but when the trial was postponed from July to October they were forced to rely on the generosity of American supporters.



If you're a Jack Daniel's drinker we'd like to hear from you. How about dropping us a line at the Jack Daniel Distillery, Lynchburg, Tennessee 37352 USA.

A SPRING THAT NEVER RUNS OUT, according to folks at Jack Daniel Distillery, is a pretty darn good spring.

Mr. Jack Daniel built our distillery in the Hollow back in 1866 because this is where he found our limestone cave spring. It flows from deep underground, and it's free of iron. This water (and our time-honored charcoal mellowing process) account largely for the rareness of Jack Daniel's Tennessee Whiskey. After a sip, we believe, you'll understand why we regard both so highly.

JACK DANIEL'S TENNESSEE WHISKEY

The Guardian Saturday November 1 1997

Jury plea for Iraqi hijackers

The trial of six men in fear of their lives who took over an airliner has ended in a conviction, with compassion. Jamie Wilson reports

SIX Iraqis opposed to Saddam Hussein's regime were yesterday found guilty of hijacking a Sudan Airways airbus en route from Khartoum to Jordan, and forcing it to land at Stansted airport in Essex.

Although the judge at the Old Bailey ruled on Thursday that their defence had no legal basis, the jury took five hours to reach its verdict and sent a note to the judge, saying that they felt great compassion for the Iraqis — all opposed to Saddam Hussein's regime.

It read: "The jury would like to register their difficulty in reaching a decision due to the history and background of the defendants for whom we feel great compassion."

The six men — Adnan Hoshan, aged 39, Saheb Aboud, 31, Hasah Hasan, 34, Mustafa Hussin, 33, Maged Naji, 36, and Mohammed Muhssin, 39 — maintained that when they took over the plane in August last year they acted out of "necessity" as their lives were in danger.

One of the hijackers, Mustafa Hussin, a deserter from the Iraqi army, told the court he had been sentenced to death but was freed during an uprising following the Gulf war.

His pregnant wife had been tortured with electrical implements until she miscarried.

They had been on the run in Iraq for three years, before bribing a border guard and escaping into Jordan before travelling on to the Sudan.

The father and two brothers of Hoshan's fiancee had been executed in Iraq, the court heard.

The women of the family had all been arrested and, in the words of the judge, Mr Justice Wright, "imprisoned and tortured in the most inhumane and revolting way."

The hijack itself followed was a visit to the men's rooms by a Sudanese security official who confiscated their passports and told them to leave Sudan within the month or they would be arrested and possibly handed over to the Iraqi security services.

But Hoshan then bribed an official to return the passports and decided in desperation to commandeer a plane, the jury was told.

A bribed security guard at Khartoum airport agreed to plant a gun in the toilet of a flight to Amman in Jordan.

On August 27, 1996 the hijackers, and Hoshan and Hussin's families, boarded the plane armed with plastic craft knives and sauce bottles wrapped in black tape to resemble grenades. The promised gun was not there.

As the captain announced the flight was entering Egyptian airspace Muhssin leapt up brandishing a plastic knife, grabbed an air hostess, put the knife to her throat and dragged her towards the front of the plane. Other passengers and security staff on board attacked him, freeing the air hostess.

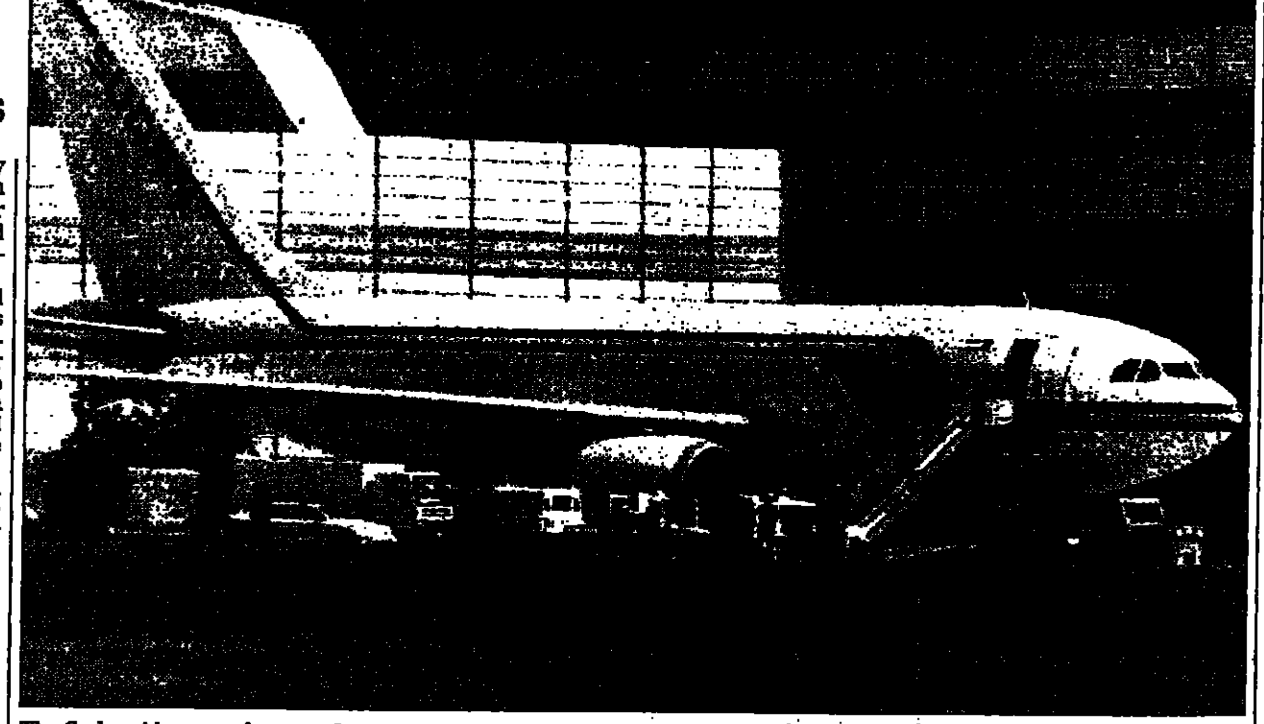
Naji, holding a fake hand grenade, then began screaming that he would blow up the plane unless his accomplice was freed. Captain Hidirbi, the pilot, then went to the rear cabin and ordered the release of Muhsin. The pilot, who told the court the scene was "like a football riot", agreed to do what the hijackers wanted.

The men then armed themselves with knives from a party of butchers on board. One passenger was stabbed in the arm, and at one point the hijackers threatened to open the doors and throw a passenger out of the plane.

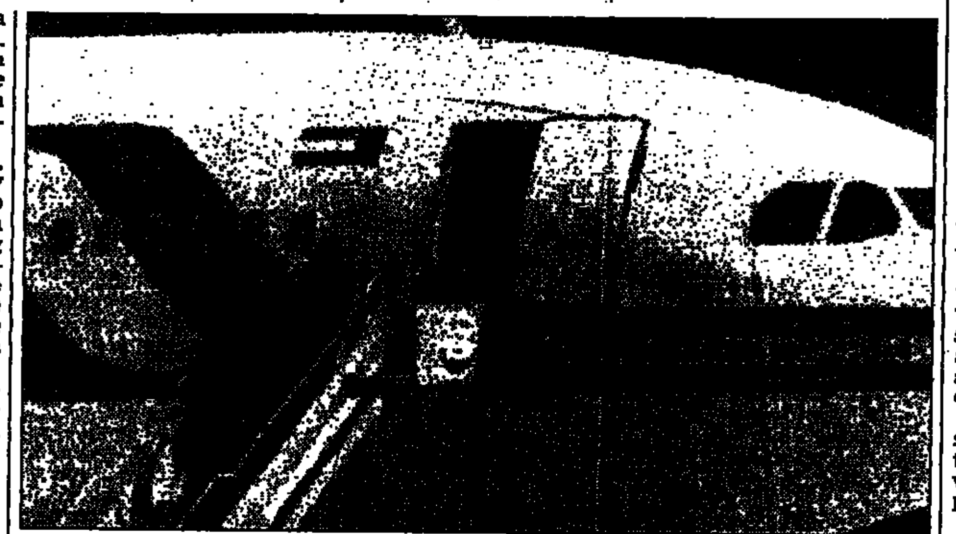
After refuelling in Cyprus, the hijackers refused to allow the women and children to leave the plane, even though some of them had been flying to Jordan for medical treatment. They later ordered the pilot to fly to Stansted, where the passengers and crew were released and the hijackers surrendered.

The jury will continue deliberating on separate charges against a seventh man, Sabah Nagi, 29, who is accused of conspiring to hijack the plane.

The judge will hear mitigation for the six and sentence them next week.



The Sudan Airways plane on the tarmac at Stansted after the hijackers ordered it to land there PHOTOGRAPH: TOM JENKINS



Security forces preparing to arrest the hijackers at Stansted PHOTOGRAPH: RUSSELL BOYCE

Hague scorns 'old guard' Emu assault

Ewen MacAskill, Chief Political Correspondent

TORY leader William Hague yesterday brushed aside a twin assault by former senior cabinet ministers Lord Hurd and Sir Leon Brittan, who threw their weight behind the pro-European faction over a single currency.

Former foreign secretary Lord Hurd, one of the most pro-European members of the Thatcher and Major cabinets, said the leadership's increasingly sceptical line on the single currency could "turn out to be not so much foolish as incredible".

Sir Leon, vice-president of the European Commission and a former member of the Thatcher cabinet, backed Kenneth Clarke's call for a "cross-party alliance" to campaign for a single currency.

But a spokesman for Mr Hague, increasingly confident as support for the pro-European faction fails to gather momentum, was dismissive of Sir Leon: "If he spent more time in Britain than in Brussels, he would realise the British public are more sceptical about a single currency and that a considerable body of British businessmen are, too."

The estimated strength of the pro-European faction, which is led by Michael Heseltine and Mr Clarke, is only about 20 MPs out of 165, and almost all belong to the Tory old guard.

Mr Hague's spokesman described them as "living history", adding that the leader was trying to create a "fresh party".

Asked about Lord Hurd's speech, he said ironically: "There's a surprise."

The pro-European faction has mounted a concerted campaign, beginning with Mr Clarke on Wednesday, Mr Heseltine following through on Thursday, and Lord Hurd and Sir Leon yesterday."

Peter Temple-Morris, the Tory MP who discussed joining the Labour Party with Tony Blair, will make a speech in Dublin on Monday. Although he opted to stay in the party this week, it is unlikely he will stand at the next election if Mr Hague continues to foreswear the single currency for 10 years.

But Mr Hague's strength in the party on this issue was demonstrated as shadow cabinet members Michael Howard, Peter Lilley and John Redwood queued up to back him and a party source said further shadow cabinet defections were not expected.

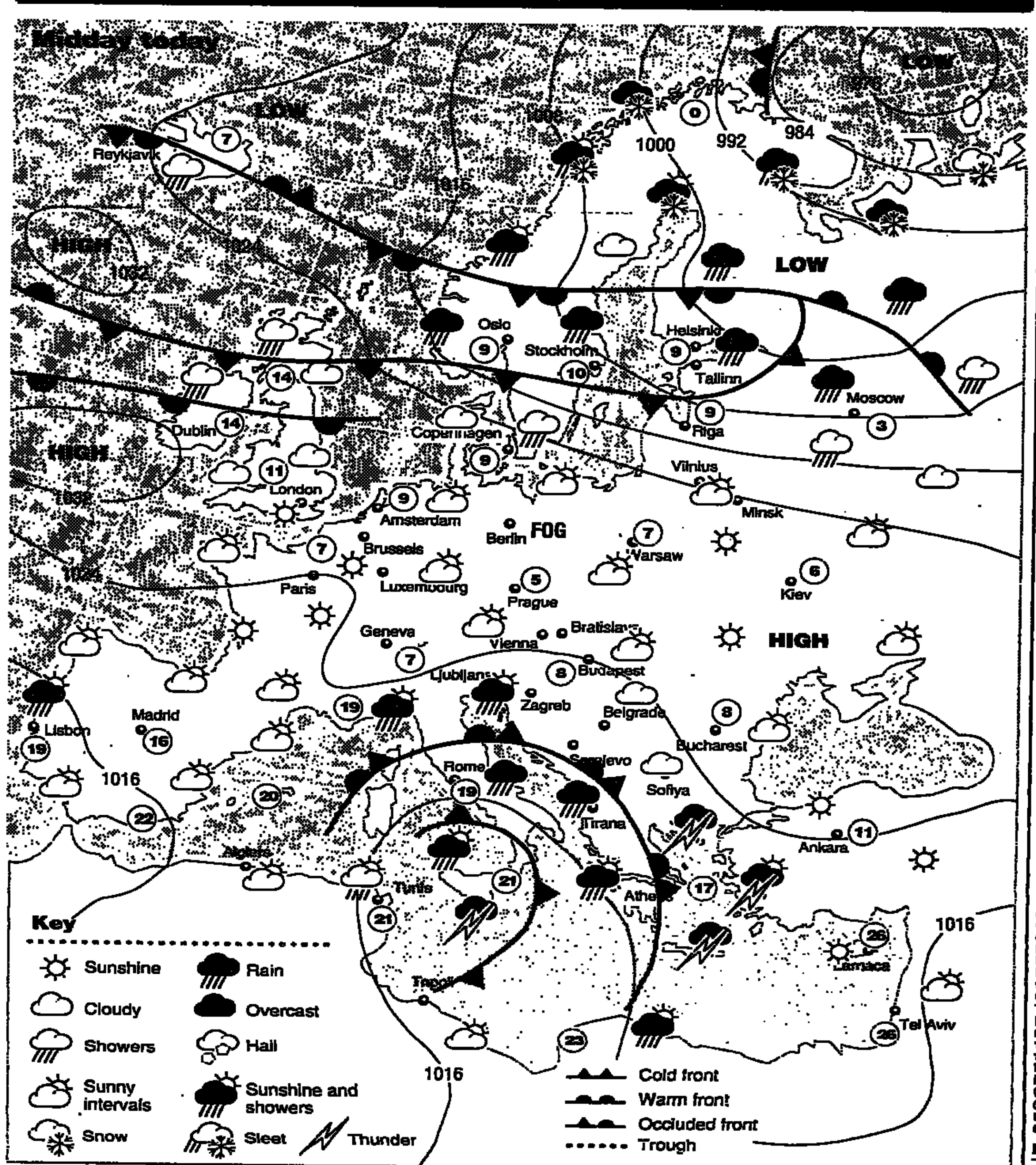
David Curry headed a short list of those shadow cabinet members who might join Mr Taylor, who resigned on Wednesday. But the source said the single currency decision was made by the shadow cabinet over a week ago, and "if he was going, he would have gone by now".

Lord Hurd, though pro-European, said he had "never been an enthusiastic supporter of a single currency". But he urged the Tory leadership to take a less rigid approach to the euro.

Sir Leon said a single currency was inevitable and Britain should be part of it. "A cross-party coalition for the euro could provide a strong voice to rise above the din of internal party squabbles," he said.

"This is the best way to prevent the British debate degenerating into a competitive Dutch auction in Euroscepticism."

The weather in Europe



Forecast for the cities

Today

	max	min	weather
Algiers	23	11	F
Amsterdam	8	2	F
Athens	15	13	Th
Berlin	7	3	Fg
Bonn	8	0	F
Brussels	7	0	S
Copenhagen	10	5	F
Crete	24	14	Th
Geneva	7	3	F
Larnaca	26	14	S
London	10	4	F
Madrid	13	7	S
Milan	16	8	Sh
Nice	17	11	Sh
Oslo	9	2	Sh
Paris	7	-1	S
Rome	17	10	Sh
Stockholm	10	0	C
Tunis	23	14	Sh
Vienna	5	-1	F

Tomorrow

	max	min	weather
Algiers	24	12	F
Amsterdam	11	3	F
Athens	18	13	Th
Berlin	8	4	Sh
Bonn	9	1	F
Brussels	8	2	S
Copenhagen	8	4	F
Crete	21	14	Th
Geneva	11	5	F
Larnaca	25	15	F
London	11	4	F
Madrid	16	10	R
Milan	17	9	F
Nice	18	12	F
Oslo	7	0	F
Paris	9	3	F
Rome	20	9	Sh
Stockholm	6	-1	F
Tunis	24	15	F
Vienna	6	1	F

Monday

	max	min	weather
Algiers	25	15	F
Amsterdam	11	5	F
Athens	18	12	F
Berlin	9	4	C
Bonn	12	3	F
Brussels	9	4	F
Copenhagen	8	3	F
Crete	20	14	C
Geneva	12	6	F
Larnaca	25	15	Th
London	13	7	F
Madrid	18	8	R
Milan	17	10	M
Nice	19	13	F
Oslo	8	1	Sh
Paris	12	7	F
Rome	20	11	F
Stockholm	5	-2	H
Tunis	24	15	F
Vienna	7	2	M

Tuesday

	max	min	weather
Algiers	26	16	F
Amsterdam	12	8	C
Athens	19	11	F
Berlin	8	3	F
Bonn	12	6	Sh
Brussels	12	9	F
Copenhagen	7	3	F
Crete	19	13	F
Geneva	12	7	F
Larnaca	25	15	Th
London	15	10	C
Madrid	19	8	C
Milan	17	11	Sh
Nice	19	14	Sh
Oslo	5	0	Sh
Paris	15	10	Sh
Rome	21	12	F
Stockholm	4	-2	F
Tunis	24	16	F
Vienna	7	2	F

C, cloudy; Cl, clear; Dr, drizzle; F, fair; Fg, fog; H, hot; Hz, haze; R, rain; Sh, showers; Sl, sleet; Sn, snow; S, sunny; Th, thunder. * (previous day's readings)

Around the world

Lunchtime yesterday (previous day in Americas)

		C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	F	18	64	Lima	C	23	73
Amsterdam	S	10	50	Lisbon	C	15	59
Anchorage	C	-1	30	London	S	12	54
Athens	F	14	57	Los Angeles	S	23	73
Atlanta	S	18	64	Luxembourg	C	6	43
B Aires	F	19	66	Madrid	C	14	57
Barbados	F	29	84	Majorca	S	18	64
Barcelona	F	15	59	Malaga	F	20	68
Belgrade	C	5	41	Malta	C	19	66
Berlin	C	3	37	Mecca	C	35	95
Bermuda	C	23	73	Melbourne	R	17	63
Biarritz	F	11	52	Miami	C	28	82
Bombay	F	33	91	Milan	C	7	45
Bordeaux	F	10	50	Montreal	S	8	46
Boston	F	16	61	Moscow	M	1	34
Brisbane	F	25	77	Munich	S	5	41
Brussels	S	8	46	Nairobi	C	21	70
Budapest	C	7	45	Naples	C	16	61
Cairo	C	24	75	New Delhi	C	27	81
Calcutta	F	30	86	New Orleans	S	23	73
Calgary	S	14	57	New York	S	16	61
Cape Town	S	28	82	Nice	S	17	63
Casablanca	S	24	75	Oslo	Fg	1	34
Christchurch	F	16	61	Paris	F	8	46
Corfu	C	18	64	Perth	S	21	70
Dakar	C	30	86	Prague	C	5	41
Dallas	C	22	72	Reykjavik	M	9	48
Darwin	S	31	88	Rhodes	C	17	63
Dhaka	F	29	84	Rio de Jan	C	29	84
Florence	F	12	54	Rome	F	18	64
Frankfurt	C	6	43	Singapore	C	32	90
Geneva	S	4	39	Stockholm	C	9	48
Gibraltar	F	20	68	Strasbourg	S	6	43
Hamburg	S	7	45	Sydney	F	27	81
Helsinki	C	6	43	Tel Aviv	F	26	79
Hong Kong	F	26	79	Tenerife	S	25	77
Honolulu	S	30	86	Tokyo	C	17	63
Innsbruck	C	8	46	Toronto	C	11	52
Istanbul	C	12	54	Tunis	C	18	64
Jersey	S	13	55	Valencia	F	19	66
Jerusalem	F	23	73	Vancouver	C	15	59
Jo'burg	F	23	73	Venice	C	10	50
Karachi	S	30	86	Vienna	C	5	41
Kiev	C	4	39	Warsaw	C	5	41
Kingston	S	32	90	Washington	S	17	63
Larnaca	F	25	77	Zurich	F	0	32

European weather outlook

Scandinavia:
It will be windy and wet, with rain turning to sleet and snow in the far north, and across eastern Finland. Rain will be replaced by squally showers in the west later. Max temp 7-10C but around freezing in the north and east.

Low Countries, Germany, Austria, Switzerland:
Dry all day but cold again at dawn with widespread fog patches. Some fog could be reluctant to clear but most areas will see spells of sunshine. Max temp 6-9C but only 4C where the fog stays.

France:
Cold and frosty at first in most areas, except the far south and the coasts. Fog patches will lift to leave plenty of sunshine but a shower is possible later towards the Gulf of Lyon. Max temp generally 7-10C but 17-19C along the Riviera.

Spain and Portugal:
Dry in most areas with some sunshine but there will be more cloud than recently. Cloud will thicken over southern Portugal, bringing rain later. Max temp between 14C in the north and 23C on the Costa del Sol.

Italy:
Wet in most areas but rain will turn more showery later, with spells of sunshine breaking through. However, a thunderstorm is still possible over Sicily. Max temp 13C in the north but up to 21C on Sicily.

Greece:
Cloudy with outbreaks of rain, some heavy in the south with scattered thunderstorms. Becoming more showery later with brief spells of sunshine. Max temp 14-17C.

Television and radio — Saturday

BBC 1

8.05am Flash Gordon: Space Soldiers. 8.25 News and Weather. 8.30 Saturday Aardvark. 8.40 Dennis the Menace. 9.10 Conan the Adventurer. 9.30 The New Adventures of Superman. 10.15 Live and Kicking. 1.12 Weather. 1.15 Grandstand. 6.15 News and Weather. 6.25 Regional News and Sport. 6.30 Are You Being Served? 7.00 Jim Davidson's Generation Game. 8.00 Noel House Party. 8.50 The National Lottery Live. 9.10 Casualty. 9.59 National Lottery Update. 10.00 FILM: Bitter Vengeance. 11.30 News and Sport. 11.50 Match of the Day. 1.05 Clive Anderson All Talk. 1.40 Top of the Pops. 2.10 FILM: How to Make a Monster. 3.20 Weather. 3.25 Close.

BBC 2

7.35am FILM: In Name Only. 9.05 FILM: Vigil in the Night. 10.40 The Sky at Night. 11.00 Q Asia. 11.30 Network East. 12.2 50 Years On: Independence. 12.50 The Complete Guide to the 20th Century. 1.00 Talent 200. 1.05 The Phil Silvers Show. 1.30 Film '97 with Barry Norman. 2.00 The Great Romances of the 20th Century. 2.30 FILM: Nothing Sacred. 3.40 FILM: Soldier of Fortune. 5.15 The Saint. 6.05 TOTP 2. 6.50 Postcards from the Country. 7.30 News and Sport. 7.45 Correspondent Special: Getting Away With Murder. 8.30 The Works. 9.00 What the Papers Say. 9.10 Decisive Moments: The Photographs That Made History. 10.00 Abigail's Party Night: Party Menu. 10.0 Funny Women. 10.30 Abigail's Party. 12.15 Ernie Forever and Ever. 12.35 Later with Jools Holland. 1.35 FILM: La Cage aux Folles. 3.00 Weather. 3.05 Close.

BBC Prime

● Intelsat

7.00am World News. 7.25 World Weather. 7.30 Noddy. 7.40 Wait on Earth. 7.55 Robin and Rosie. 8.10 Activ8. 8.35 Moondial. 9.05 Blue Peter. 9.30 Grange Hill Omnibus. 10.05 Dr Who: Terror of the Zygons. 10.30 Style Challenge. 10.55 Ready, Steady, Cook. 11.25 World Weather. 11.30 EastEnders Omnibus. 12.50 Style Challenge. 1.15 Ready, Steady, Cook. 1.45 Kilroy. 2.30 Wildlife: Dawn to Dusk. 3.00 The Onedin Line. 3.50 World Weather. 4.00 Mortimer and Arabel. 4.10 Gruey Twoey. 4.35 Blue Peter. 5.00 Grange Hill Omnibus. 5.35 Top of the Pops. 6.05 Dr Who: Terror of the Zygons. 6.30 Visions of Snowdonia. 7.00 Oh, Doctor Beeching! 7.30 Are You Being Served? 8.00 Noel's House Party. 9.00 Takin' Over the Asylum. 9.55 World Weather. 10.00 Murder Most Horrid. 10.30 The Full Wax. 11.00 Shooting Stars. 11.30 TOTP2. 12.15 Later with Jools Holland. 1.20 World Weather. 1.30 Restoring the Balance.

BBC World

● Eutelsat

7.00am News. 7.30 Tomorrow's World. 8.00 News. 8.30 Hard Talk. 9.00 News. 9.30 Correspondent. 10.00 News. 10.05 Rough Guide to the World. 11.00 News. 11.30 Holiday. 12.00 News. 12.30 This Week. 1.00 News. 1.05 Horizon. 2.00 News. 2.05 Great Railway Journeys. 3.00 News. 3.30 Film '97 with Barry Norman. 4.00 News. 4.05 Rough Guide to the World. 5.00 News. 5.30 Hard Talk. 6.00 News. 6.30 Floyd on France. 7.00 News. 7.30 This Week. 8.00 News. 8.30 Correspondent. 9.00 News. 9.05 Horizon. 10.00 News. 10.30 Reporters. 11.00 News. 11.30 Top Gear. 12.00 News. 12.30 The Money Programme. 1.00 News. 1.05 Great Railway Journeys. 2.00 News. 2.05 Rough Guide to the World. 3.00 News. 3.30 Correspondent. 4.00 News. 4.30 Hardtalk. 5.00 News. 5.30 This Week. 6.00 News. 6.30 India Business Report.

Radio 4

92.4-94.6 MHz; 198 kHz (1514)

7.00am News Briefing. 7.10 Farming Today. 7.50 Prayer for the Day. 7.55 Weather. 8.00 Today. 9.58 Weather. 10.00 News. 10.05 Sport on 4. 10.30 Breakaway. 11.00 News: Loose Ends. 12.00 News: The Week in Westminster. 12.30 EuroFile. 1.00 Money Box. 1.25 News Quiz. 1.55 Weather. 2.00 News. 2.10 Any Questions? 2.55 Shipping Forecast. 3.00 News: Any Answers? (0171-580 4444. 3.30 Saturday Playhouse: The Flight. Eric Strapp. 5.00 The Romans in Britain (New Series). 5.30 Science Now. 6.00 File on 4. 6.40 Continent Adrift: Letters from Australia (New Series). 6.50 Shipping Forecast. 6.55 Weather. 7.00 Six O'Clock News. 7.25 Week Ending. 7.50 Offspring. 8.30 Kaleidoscope Feature. 8.50 On These Days. 9.50 The Hydro. 10.35 Classics with Kay. 10.50 Ten to Ten. 11.00 News. 11.15 Saturday Night Theatre: God's Country. 12.15 Red Hills of Home. 12.30 Word of Mouth. 1.00 News. 1.30 Late Story: A New Beginning. 1.48 Shipping Forecast. 2.00 As World Service.

BBC World Service

BBC World Service can be received in England on MW 648 kHz (463m) and in Western Europe on LW 198 kHz (1515m)

7.00am Newsday. 7.30 Meridian Feature. 8.00 News. 8.15 From the Weeklies. 8.30 Cross Questioned. 9.00 News. 9.10 Pause for Thought. 9.15 On Your Behalf. 9.30 Andy Kershaw's World of Music. 10.00 News. 10.05 World Business Review. 10.15 The Works. 10.45 Sports Round-Up. 11.00 Newsdesk. 11.30 Heritage. 12.00 Newsdesk. 12.30 People and Politics. 1.00 News. 1.05 World Business Review. 1.15 A Jolly Good Show. 1.45 Good Books. 2.00 Newshour. 3.00 News. 3.05 Sportsworld. 4.00 News. 4.05 Sportsworld. 5.00 News. 5.15 Sportsworld. 5.30 (648 only) News in German. 6.00 News. 6.01 Weekend. 6.30 From Our Own Correspondent. 7.00 Newsdesk. 7.30 Science in Action. 8.00 News. 8.01 Park Bench and Co. 8.30 Chill Out. 9.00 Newshour. 10.00 News. 10.05 World Business Review. 10.15 Britain Today. 10.30 Meridian Live. 11.00 Newsdesk. 11.30 Worldplay: Hair of the Dog. 12.30 Andy Kershaw's World of Music. 1.00 Newsdesk. 1.30 Letter from America. 1.45 Britain Today. 2.00 Newsdesk. 2.30 On Your Behalf. 2.45 Sports Round-Up. 3.00 Newsday. 3.30 Music Review. 4.00 News. 4.05 World Business Review. 4.15 Sports Round-Up. 4.30 From Our Own Correspondent. 5.00 Newsdesk. 5.30 Global Business. 6.00 Newsday. 6.30 Jazzamatazz.

The Movie Channel

● Astra

7.00 Transformers: The Movie. 9.00 Young Indiana Jones: Treasure of the Peacock's Eye. 11.00 The Amazing Panda Adventure. 1.00 Slattery's Hurricane. 3.00 Tennessee's Partner. 5.00 The Amazing Panda Adventure. 7.00 The Steal. 9.00 The Net. 11.00 Preview: Broken Arrow. 11.05 Broken Arrow. 1.00 Shadow Dancer. 2.35 Clockers. 4.45 Broken Arrow.

Sky Movies

● Astra

7.00 The Spy with a Cold Nose. 8.45 Rough Cut. 10.35 Dad. 12.35 Operation Dumbo Drop. 2.25 The Spy with a Cold Nose. 3.00 Little Women. 6.00 Dad. 8.00 Operation Dumbo Drop. 10.00 The Lawnmower Man 2: Beyond Cyberspace. 11.45 Deceived by Trust. 1.15 Something to Talk About. 3.00 Reflections on a Crime. 4.35 Rumpelstiltskin.

Sky Sports

● Astra

7.00 Windsurfing: World Tour. 7.30 Powerboats: Formula One. 8.00 Sports Centre. 9.00 Aerobics Oz Style. 9.30 Racing News. 10.00 Hold the Back Page. 11.00 Rugby League: World of Super League with Eddie and Stevo. 12.00 World Sport Special. 12.30 High 5. 1.00 Sports Saturday. 2.30 Rugby League: Great Britain v Australia - Live. 5.15 Sports Saturday. 6.30 Bobby Charlton's Football Scrapbook. 8.00 Spanish Football Live. 10.30 Saturday Fight Night Live. 12.30 Golf: Volvo Masters. 2.30 Boxing: Saturday Fight Night. 4.30 Football: Spanish Primera Liga. 7.00 Close.

Eurosport

● Astra/Eutelsat

8.30 Fun Sports: Freeride Magazine. 9.00 Fun Sports: Jump The Bus! 9.30 Extreme Sports: X-Games. 10.30 Motorcycling: Offroad Magazine. 11.30 Truck Racing: Europa Truck Trial. 12.30 Tractor Pulling: International Competition. 1.30 Strongest Man in Europe. 2.30 Football: World Cup Qualifiers. 4.00 Tennis: Paris Open - Live. 7.30 Motorsport: 4x4 Off-Road. 8.00 Darts: World Cup. 9.00 Bodybuilding: NABBA Universe. 10.00 Indoor Windsurfing: Fundolo Euro Tour - Live. 12.00 Sumo: 1995 Grand Tournament. 2.00 Close.

Sky One

● Astra

8.00 Bump in the Night. 8.30 Street Sharks. 9.00 Press Your Luck. 9.30 Love Connection. 10.00 Ultraforce. 10.30 Dream Team. 11.00 Quantum Leap. 12.00 The Young Indiana Jones Chronicles. 1.00 WWF Wrestling: Live Wire. 2.00 WWF Wrestling: Shotgun. 3.00 Kung Fu. 4.00 Star Trek. 5.00 Earth 2. 6.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine. 7.00 Adventures of Sinbad. 8.00 Tarzan: The Epic Adventure. 9.00 Dream Team Omnibus. 10.00 Cops I. 10.30 Cops II. 11.00 Law and Order. 12.00 New York Undercover. 1.00 The Movie Show. 1.30 L.A.P.D. 2.00 Dream On. 2.30 Revelations. 3.00 Long Play.

National Geographic

● Astra

8.00 Explorer. 9.00 The Klondike Gold Rush. 10.00 Moroabit. 11.00 Under the Ice. 12.00 Wild Life! Adventures. 1.00 Explorer.

UK Gold

● Astra

8.00 The Sullivans. 10.05 One by One. 11.05 Neighbours. 1.05 EastEnders. 3.55 Doctor in Love. 5.40 Bruce Forsyth's Generation Game. 6.50 This is UK TV. 7.00 Open All Hours. 7.40 A Word with Alf. 7.50 Last of the Summer Wine. 8.30 A Word with Alf. 8.40 Rising Damp. 9.10 A Word with Alf. 9.20 Blackadder II. 10.00 Blackadder the Third. 10.40 Blackadder Goes Forth. 11.20 French and Saunders. 12.00 Men Behaving Badly. 12.35 Red Dwarf. 1.20 The Comic Strip Presents. 2.25 The Young Ones. 3.05 The Detectives. 3.35 Shopping at Night.

NBC Superchannel

● Astra/Eutelsat

7.00 MSNBC News. 8.00 The McLaughlin Group. 8.30 Europa Journal. 9.00 Tech 2000. 9.30 Computer Chronicles. 10.00 Internet Cafe. 10.30 Tech 2000. 11.00 Super Shop. 12.00 Super Sports: ITTF Table Tennis. 1.00 Euro PGA Golf. 2.00 Power Week. 3.00 NHL Super Sports: Tennis. 4.00 Five Star Adventure. 4.30 Europe a la Carte. 5.00 The Best of the Ticket. 5.30 VIP. 6.00 Cousteau: The Cousteau Odyssey. 7.00 National Geographic Television. 8.00 Mr Rhodes. 8.30 Union Square. 9.00 Profiler. 11.00 Saturday Night Mystery: Mancuso FBI. 12.00 Notre Dame College Football. 3.30 Travel Xpress. 4.00 The Ticket. 4.30 Music Legends. 5.00 Executive Lifestyles. 5.30 The Ticket. 6.00 Travel Xpress. 6.30 Inspiration.

Discovery

● Astra/Intelsat

8.00 Saturday Stack. 9.00 Discovery News. 9.30 Wonders of Weather. 10.00 Raging Planet. 11.00 Weapons of War. 12.00 Unexplained: UFO. 1.00 The Guillotine. 2.00 Top Marques. 2.30 Driving Passions. 3.00 Close.

Television and radio — Sunday

BBC 1

8.15am Match of the Day. 9.30 Breakfast with Frost. 10.30 Immortal, Invisible. 10.45 First Light. 11.15 See Hear! 11.45 Snowy River: The McGregor Saga. 12.30 CountryFile. 12.55 Weather. 1.00 On the Record. 2.00 EastEnders. 3.20 Children in Need Update. 3.30 FILM: Columbo: Playback. 4.45 FILM: MacGyver: The Lost Treasure of Atlantis. 6.15 The Clothes Show. 6.40 News and Weather. 7.00 Regional News. 7.05 Songs of Praise. 7.40 Get Well Soon. 8.10 Antiques Roadshow. 8.55 Full Circle with Michael Palin. 9.45 News and Weather. 10.00 FILM: Housesitter. 11.35 Traders of the Lost Scrolls. 12.25 FILM: Absolute Strangers. 1.55 Weather. 2.00 Close.

BBC 2

8.30am Children's BBC: Teletubbies. 9.10 Spot. 9.15 Jackanory Gold. 9.30 Bitsa. 9.45 The Animals of Farthing Wood. 10.10 Prince of Atlantis. 10.35 Noah's Island. 11.00 The Real Adventures of Jonny Quest. 11.25 Grange Hill. 11.50 Out of Tune. 12.20 Small World. 12.30 Top Score. 12.50 The Simpsons Hallowe'en Special I. 1.15 The Sunday Show. 2.00 Regional Programmes. 2.30 Computers Don't Bite: The Beginner's Guide. 3.00 FILM: The Inn of the Sixth Happiness. 5.30 The Saint. 6.28 Shark Bites. 6.30 Watch Out. 6.35 Sea Trek. 7.10 The Natural World. 8.00 Star Trek: Voyager. 8.45 Inside. 9.35 The Money Programme. 10.15 Building Sights. 10.28 Shark Bites. 10.30 Have I Got News for You. 11.00 Pulp Facts. 11.15 FILM: Pulp Fiction. 1.45 FILM: The Set-Up. 2.55 Weather. 3.00 Learning Zone: Further Education: IT Applications. 7.00 Close.

BBC Prime

● Intelsat

7.00am World News. 7.20 World Weather. 7.30 Wham! Bam! Strawberry Jam! 7.45 Gordon T Gopher. 7.55 Mortimer and Arabel. 8.10 Gruey Twoey. 8.35 Running Scared. 9.00 Blue Peter. 9.25 Grange Hill Omnibus. 10.00 Top of the Pops. 10.25 Style Challenge. 10.50 Ready, Steady, Cook. 11.20 World Weather. 11.25 All Creatures Great and Small. 12.15 Yes, Minister. 12.45 Style Challenge. 1.15 Ready, Steady, Cook. 1.45 Kilroy. 2.30 Wildlife: Dawn to Dusk. 3.00 All Creatures Great and Small. 3.50 Jonny Briggs. 4.05 Activ8. 4.30 Blue Peter. 4.55 Grange Hill Omnibus. 5.30 TOTP2. 6.25 World Weather. 6.30 Antiques Roadshow. 7.00 Lovejoy. 8.00 Ballykissangel. 9.00 Presumption: The Life of Jane Austen. 10.00 To the Manor Born. 10.30 The Absence of War. 12.00 Songs of Praise. 12.35 Mastermind. 1.05 Learning to Learn.

BBC World

● Eutelsat

7.00am News. 7.30 Film '97. 8.00 News. 8.30 Hard Talk. 9.00 News. 9.30 Window on Europe. 10.00 News. 10.05 Great Railway Journeys. 11.00 News. 11.30 Floyd on France. 12.30 Hard Talk. 1.00 News. 1.05 Rough Guide to the World. 2.00 News. 2.15 Dateline London. 3.00 News. 3.30 Holiday. 4.00 News. 4.05 Horizon. 5.00 News. 5.30 Hardtalk. 6.00 News. 6.30 Top Gear. 7.00 News. 7.05 Great Railway Journeys. 8.00 News. 8.30 Panorama. 9.00 News. 9.05 Rough Guide to the World. 10.00 News. 10.30 Window on Europe. 11.00 News. 12.00 News. 1.00 World Headlines. 1.05 USA Direct. 1.30 Top Gear. 2.00 World News, World Business Report, Asia Today and 24 Hours. 3.00 World News, World Business Report and America Direct. 4.00 News. 5.00 News. 5.30 Correspondent. 6.00 News. 6.30 Hard Talk.

Radio 4

92.4-94.6 MHz; 198 kHz (1514)

7.00am News Briefing. 7.10 Something Understood. 7.55 Weather. 8.00 News. 8.10 Sunday Papers. 8.15 On Your Farm. 8.40 Sunday. 9.50 The Week's Good Cause. 9.55 Weather. 10.00 News. 10.10 Sunday Papers. 10.15 Letter from America. 10.30 Morning Service. 11.15 The Archers. 12.15 Mediumwave. 12.45 Books and Company. 1.15 Desert Island Discs. 1.55 Weather. 2.00 The World This Weekend. 2.55 Shipping Forecast. 3.00 Gardeners' Question Time. 3.30 Classic Serial: Childhood's End. 4.30 Pick of the Week. 5.15 Analysis. 6.00 Mean Times Australia. 6.30 Poetry Please! 6.50 Shipping Forecast. 6.55 Weather. 7.00 Six O'Clock News. 7.15 Feedback. 7.30 In Business. 8.00 Children's BBC Radio 4: Into the Dark. 8.30 Breakaway. 9.00 (LW) Leisure Language Strand. 9.00 (FM) The Natural History Programme. 9.30 (FM) The Romans in Britain. 10.00 (FM) The Return of Itchy Feet. 10.30 (FM) Reinventing the Wheel. 11.00 News. 11.15 All in the Mind. 11.45 Europe Now. 12.15 Something Understood. 1.00 News. 1.20 Bells on Sunday. 1.30 The Late Story: Backstroke. 1.48 Shipping Forecast. 2.00 As World Service.

BBC World Service

BBC World Service can be received in England on MW 648 kHz (463m) and in Western Europe on LW 198 kHz (1515m)

7.00am Newsday. 7.30 In Praise of God. 8.00 News. 8.15 Letter from America. 8.30 A Jolly Good Show. 9.00 News. 9.10 Pause for Thought. 9.15 Good Books. 9.30 The Greenfield Collection. 10.00 News. 10.05 Write On. 10.15 From Our Own Correspondent. 10.45 Sports Round-Up. 11.00 Newsdesk. 11.30 Global Business. 12.00 Newsdesk. 12.30 Anything Goes. 1.00 News. 1.05 Write On. 1.15 In Praise of God. 1.45 Sports Round-Up. 2.00 Newshour. 3.00 News Summary. 3.01 Pop on the Line. 4.00 News. 4.05 Sports Round-Up. 4.15 Concert Hall. 5.00 News. 5.15 What Do Christians Believe? 5.30 (648 only) News in German. 5.45 Britain Today. 6.00 Europe Today. 6.30 Poems by Post. 6.45 Sports Round-Up. 7.00 Newsdesk. 7.30 Worldplay: Hair of the Dog. 8.30 Anything Goes. 9.00 Newshour. 10.00 News. 10.05 Write On. 10.15 Britain Today. 10.30 Music Review. 11.00 Newsdesk. 11.30 Health Matters. 11.45 Sports Round-Up. 12.00 News. 12.05 Science View. 12.10 The Deal with Drugs. 12.25 Pop Short. 12.30 In Praise of God. 1.00 Newsdesk. 1.30 Good Books. 1.45 Britain Today. 2.00 Newsdesk. 2.30 Pick of the World. 3.00 Newsday. 3.30 Meridian Feature. 4.00 News. 4.05 Write On. 4.15 Sports Round-Up. 4.30 The Works. 5.00 Newsdesk. 5.30 Europe Today. 6.00 Newsday. 6.30 Europe Today.

The Movie Channel

● Astra

7.00 My Little Pony: The Movie. 9.00 Young Indiana Jones and the Hollywood Follies. 11.00 With Honors. 1.00 The Battle of the Villa Fiorita. 3.00 Goddess. 5.00 With Honors. 7.00 The Bible: Joseph - Part I. 9.00 The Scarlet Letter. 11.15 Coldblooded. 12.50 The Movie Show. 1.20 Un Lugar en el Mundo. 3.25 The Heartbreak Kid. 5.05 Isle of the Dead. 6.20 Sherlock Holmes and the Baskerville Curse.

Sky Movies

● Astra

7.00 The Wrong Box. 8.45 The Secret Invasion. 10.30 The Crowded Sky. 12.15 The Wrong Box. 2.00 Heart Like a Wheel. 4.00 The Secret Invasion. 6.00 Little Big League. 8.00 Big Bully. 10.00 Twelve Monkeys. 12.15 Terminal Velocity. 2.00 Innocent Lies. 3.30 Forbidden Beauty. 5.05 Big Bully.

Sky Sports

● Astra

7.00 Sports Unlimited. 8.00 Gillette World Sports Special. 8.30 Powerboat and Jetski World. 9.00 Aerobics Oz Style. 9.30 Extreme Sports. 10.00 Boxing: Saturday Fight Night. 12.00 Football: Goals on Sunday. 1.00 Rugby Union Update. 2.30 World Sport Special. 3.00 Muscle Night: Women's Fitness Championship. 4.00 Football: Everton v Southampton - Live. 7.30 Football: Spanish Primera Liga - Live. 9.30 Windsurfing: World Tour. 10.00 NFL American Football: San Francisco v Dallas - Live. 1.30 Motorsport: Formula Three. 2.30 Golf: Volvo Masters. 4.30 Football: Everton v Southampton. 6.00 Close.

Eurosport

● Astra/Eutelsat

8.30 Showjumping: Nations Cup. 9.30 Morocco Sand Marathon. 10.00 Dog-Sled Racing: Yukon Quest. 11.00 Motorsport. 12.00 Amsterdam Marathon. 2.30 Football. 4.30 Athletics. 7.00 Drag Racing. 8.00 Motorsport: NASCAR Dura Lube 500 - Live. 10.30 Football: World Cup Dream Team. 11.00 Sailing: Whitbread Round the World Race. 11.30 Tennis: Paris Open. 1.30 Close.

Sky One

● Astra

7.00 Hour of Power. 8.00 Bump in the Night. 8.30 Street Sharks. 9.00 Press Your Luck. 9.30 Love Connection. 10.00 Ultraforce. 10.30 Dream Team. 11.00 Quantum Leap. 12.00 The Young Indiana Jones Chronicles. 1.00 WWF Wrestling: Superstars. 2.00 Rescue. 2.30 Sea Rescue. 3.00 Kung Fu. 4.00 Star Trek. 5.00 Earth 2. 6.00 Muppets Tonight. 6.30 Showbiz Weekly. 7.00 The Simpsons. 7.30 The Simpsons. 8.00 The Pretender. 9.00 The X-Files. 10.00 The X-Files. 11.00 The Outer Limits. 12.00 Forever Knight. 1.00 Can't Hurry Love. 1.30 L.A.P.D. 2.00 Manhunter. 3.00 Long Play.

National Geographic

● Astra

8.00 Explorer. 9.00 Land of the Tiger. 10.00 Tigers of the Snow. 11.00 Sex on the Reef. 12.00 Keepers of the Wild. 1.00 Explorer.

UK Gold

● Astra

8.00 The Pink Panther. 8.35 The Onedin Line. 9.30 The Duchess of Duke Street. 10.05 Sports Anorak of the Year. 10.35 Worzel Gummidge Down Under. 11.05 Blake's Seven. 12.10 Dr Who Omnibus. 2.00 Go for a Take. 3.50 George and Mildred. 4.20 The Bill Omnibus. 5.40 In Sickness and in Health. 7.20 Dad's Army. 8.00 It Ain't Half Hot, Mum. 8.40 2point4 Children. 9.20 Only Fools and Horses. 10.00 Between the Lines. 11.10 The Black Adder. 11.55 Bottom. 12.35 Paradise Club. 1.40 Middlemarch. 2.35 Survivors. 3.30 Shopping at Night.

NBC Superchannel

● Astra/Eutelsat

8.00 Hour of Power. 9.00 Home and Garden: Interiors by Design. 9.30 Home and Garden: Dream Builders. 10.00 Home and Garden: Gardening by the Yard. 10.30 Home and Garden: Company of Animals. 11.00 Super Shop. 12.00 Super Sports: Formula Opel. 1.00 Inside the PGA Tour. 1.30 Inside the SPGA Tour. 2.00 Notre Dame College Football. 4.00 Time and Again. 5.00 The McLaughlin Group. 5.30 Meet the Press. 6.30 VIP. 7.00 Mr Rhodes. 7.30 Union Square. 8.00 Super Sports: Golf. 10.00 The Best of the Tonight Show with Jay Leno. 11.00 Profiler. 1.00 The Best of the Tonight Show with Jay Leno. 2.00 MSNBC Internight. 3.00 VIP. 3.30 Europe a la Carte. 4.00 The Best of the Ticket. 4.30 Talkin' Jazz. 5.00 Five Star Adventure. 5.30 The Best of the Ticket. 6.00 VIP. 6.30 The McLaughlin Group.

Discovery

● Astra/Intelsat

5.00 Wings. 6.00 Extreme Machines. 7.00 Ultimate Guide. 8.00 Super Natural. 8.30 Arthur C Clarke's Mysterious Universe. 9.00 Raging Planet. 12.00 Secret Satellite. 1.00 Justice Files. 2.00 Journey to the Centre of the Earth. 3.00 Close.

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Germany defiant over second world war massacre of villagers

Greek court orders Bonn to pay £20m reparations

Helena Smith in Athens

IGNORING protests from Bonn, thousands of Greeks insisted yesterday they would "fight" to get Germany to honour a court decision ordering it to provide compensation for crimes committed under the Nazi occupation.

In a landmark ruling, a court in the central Greek city of Livadia, said Germany should pay $32 million (£20 million) in reparations to a village whose residents were butchered by a Waffen-SS unit in 1944. The slaughter of 218 men, women and children in Distomo is one of the worst atrocities of Nazi occupation of Greece.

Yiannis Stamoulis, the local governor who launched a campaign for compensation, said the verdict would encourage "hundreds of thousands" of Greeks to seek damages.

"The 35-page ruling was reached after 10 months of deliberation and reads like a doctorate. Its scientific argumentation cannot be denied or discounted even by Bonn," Mr Stamoulis, who is also a lawyer and former MEP, said. His district has about 3,100 claimants.

"It paves the way for victims in other parts of Greece to follow suit. I can assure you we will fight all the way," he said.

Greece suffered appallingly during the three years the swastika flew over the Acropolis. About 130,000 people were executed in different parts of the country, while about 300,000 more died of starvation. The ruins of villages that were pillaged and burnt by Nazi soldiers still scar the landscape.

Greeks say that, unlike other occupied nations, they were never adequately compensated.

"In March 1960, Germany handed the Greek state the laughable amount of 115 million marks [£41 million] in reparations," Mr Stamoulis said. "But the pact stipulated very clearly that Greek individuals also had the right to file for claims. They never did because Greece was too poor to push the issue. Now things are better they want justice."

Mr Stamoulis, now aged 65 and the governor of the town of Thiva, only narrowly escaped death himself when the Nazis began exacting "reprisals" in his home town during the war.

He said the lawsuits had been made possible by German unification and the end of the occupation of Germany by allied troops.

Bonn had two months to appeal against the verdict in Athens or pay up, he said. "Otherwise we will take the case to the International Court at The Hague or the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg."

> 'The court's ruling paves the way for victims in other parts of Greece to follow suit. I assure you we will fight all the way'

German officials dismissed the issue as moribund yesterday, saying that no court had jurisdiction over another country.

"The [Greek court's] decision violates international law," said Alexander Alladt, a government spokesman. "Bonn does not intend to meet the claims of the Greek village of Distomo.

"As far as Germany is concerned, it settled them in 1960. It was up to the Greek government to distribute the compensation amongst the victims."

But Mr Stamoulis argues that there are exceptions to the rule that courts in one country do not have jurisdiction over those in another, and instances of war crimes are one, "as we all saw at Nuremburg".

Ian Traynor in Bonn adds: Although the government is keen to close the book on the matter of wartime reparations, having paid out around 100 billion marks (£36 billion pounds) worldwide since 1945, the issue will not lie down.

Jewish organisations were locked in negotiations in Bonn this week, seeking pensions for thousands of Holocaust survivors in eastern Europe who have been largely ignored in the post-war reparations.

A Bonn court is expected to issue a ruling next week in the case of former slave labourers forced to work in German industry under the Nazis who are now demanding compensation. If the court rules in their favour, it could open the floodgates to thousands of additional claims.

Net closes on Sicilian godfather

John Hooper in Rome

TWO apparently unconnected events this week have raised hope that the police may be closing in on the suspected "boss of all the bosses" of the Sicilian Mafia.

Bernardo Provenzano, aged 63, has been on the run since 1969. The only surviving photograph of him shows a fit young man. Now, according to informers, he needs daily kidney dialysis.

Since the arrest of Salvatore Riina four years ago, prosecutors have repeatedly pointed to Mr Provenzano as his successor. But because of his reported ill-health, he is said to have relied heavily on a nephew, Carmelo Gariffo.

Carabinieri arrested Mr Gariffo at dawn on Thursday on charges which portray him as the chief money-launderer of the "clan" to which both Riina and Mr Provenzano belong. The arrest of the latter would deliver a *coup de grace* to the clan, based in the town of Corleone near Palermo.

There are suspicions that Mr Provenzano may have fled abroad. Three years ago his partner, Saveria Palazzolo, returned without explanation to Corleone with their three children.

But the investigators said that, for reasons of pride and authority, Mafia bosses rarely deserted their territory, even when they were in imminent danger of arrest. The most likely place for Mr Provenzano to be hiding, they said, would be in or around the city of Trapani, near the western tip of the island.

There, Cosa Nostra's *omerta* — the law of silence — has remained virtually intact and the local Mafia has remained a closed book to police and prosecutors. Until now, that is.

Announcing a wave of arrests in and around Trapani, investigators let it be known yesterday that they had two top-level "supergrasses" giving them inside information on the activities of the area's ultra-secretive clans.

The latest, Francesco Milazzo, formerly the gang boss of a Trapani suburb, was proving especially valuable. The investigators said he was reconstructing for them more than 20 years of Mafia history in the province.

He turned state's evidence three days after his arrest in July, but his defection was kept secret so as not to prejudice yesterday's operation, in which 13 people were held on charges including murder, attempted murder and arms trafficking.

Hungry pigeons flock to a charitable nun outside an Orthodox church in the Russian capital, where the winter snows have already arrived PHOTOGRAPH: ANDREI FILATOV

Truckers try to flee French strike

Paul Webster in Paris

FERRY and Channel tunnel lorry traffic increased sharply yesterday as British drivers rushed to fulfil continental deliveries or return home as the threat increased of a national French truckers' blockade this weekend.

Riot police were sent to the Channel ports to ease congestion at what will be one of the main frontiers which French drivers intend to cut off from 10pm on Sunday if no settlement is reached. French drivers have appealed to their British counterparts to cancel planned deliveries in a show of solidarity for the protest over wages and hours.

Unions representing the "*routiers*" and employers met for last-chance talks last night in an acrimonious atmosphere after a day of negotiations broke down in a shouting match at 1.30am yesterday. There was no optimism over agreement on either side, and motorists queuing at petrol stations all over the country reflected a general feeling that the blockade would start as planned.

Supermarkets accelerated deliveries to prepare for a dispute that could be as prolonged as the 12-day blockade that brought France to a standstill a year ago.

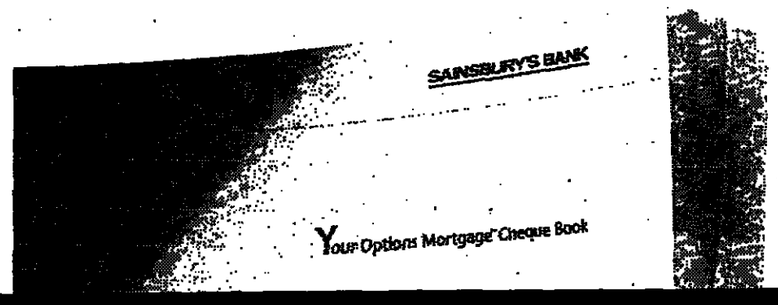
The French public, which gave overwhelming support to the last demonstration, appeared to be again on the *routiers'* side after unions claimed that employers had failed to honour last year's promises on early retirement, bonuses and better working conditions. Because of the promises, drivers put aside temporarily a claim for wages of about £1,000 a month for 200 hours' work.

This claim is now the central issue for leaders of left-wing unions representing 250,000 HGV drivers and deliverymen. But Roger Poletti of Force Ouvrière said yesterday that employers were forcing a showdown.

European trucking firms demanded yesterday that France lift its weekend driving ban on freight to let thousands of foreign lorries escape before the strike.

First Sainsbury's found a fresh way to use a carrot.
Now we've found a fresh way to use a mortgage.

The carrot cake.



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FBI comes to rescue of Castro

Martin Kettle in Washington

AFTER many unsuccessful attempts in the 1960s to assassinate President Fidel Castro of Cuba, the United States may have become his saviour. The FBI has arrested four men in a boat in the Caribbean who it believes were hoping to kill him when he visits Venezuela next week.

The arrests were made on Thursday after the US coastguard and the customs service stopped the boat off the north-west coast of Puerto Rico, near the port of Aguadilla, an FBI spokeswoman, Sara Lema, said yesterday.

Three of the men were Cubans who had become US citizens and the other was a Cuban who was awaiting political asylum in the US, she said. They had left from Miami and were more than half way to Venezuela when they were detained in the straits between the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico.

She said customs agents had found rifles and ammunition on the boat. The FBI had been brought in when the plot was suspected.

"One of the things that came up is that the purpose of their trip was to attempt to kill Fidel Castro upon his arrival in Venezuela," she said. "We are going to conduct an investigation into this alleged attempt to kill President Castro."

A long-standing target of rightwing Cuban émigré groups in Miami, President Castro never confirms international trips in advance. But he is widely expected to attend an Ibero-American international summit on Margarita island in Venezuela from next Thursday to Saturday.

The annual summit brings together leaders from Spain and Portugal and leaders of the Spanish and Portuguese-speaking countries of Latin America.

President Castro, aged 71, has led Cuba since overthrowing the US-backed police state of Fulgencio Batista in 1959.

The CIA made many secret attempts to assassinate the Cuban leader, who had become a bogeyman to many Americans after the Bay of Pigs invasion in 1961, when the US landed a force of armed Cuban émigrés only to have them rounded up.

After the Cuban missile crisis in 1962, Washington promised not to attempt another invasion, but instead imposed an economic embargo which is still in force and resorted to more clandestine methods to get rid of the Cuban leader.

These plots were revealed by a Senate investigation into the CIA in the 1970s and led to a ban by President Gerald Ford in 1976 on US government employees' involvement in assassination attempts.

Official US records published in July show that the CIA launched at least eight attempts on President Castro's life in the 1960s, including attempted shootings and bombings, lethal pills and, on one occasion, an exploding cigar.

The director of the CIA at the time, Allen Dulles, even planned to humiliate the Cuban leader by applying a powder to make his beard fall out.

President Castro himself claimed that the number of failed plots was much higher, at about two dozen.

The CIA offered $150,000 to anyone willing to kill Castro, but the reward was never taken up.

A former mistress of President John F. Kennedy, Judith Exner, claimed last year that she carried messages about such plots between the president and the Chicago crime boss Sam Giancana as the White House tried to enlist the help of organised crime.

● President Castro has approved the appointment of a career soldier, Alvaro Lopez Miera, aged 53, as the deputy defence minister and army chief of staff, official media reported yesterday.

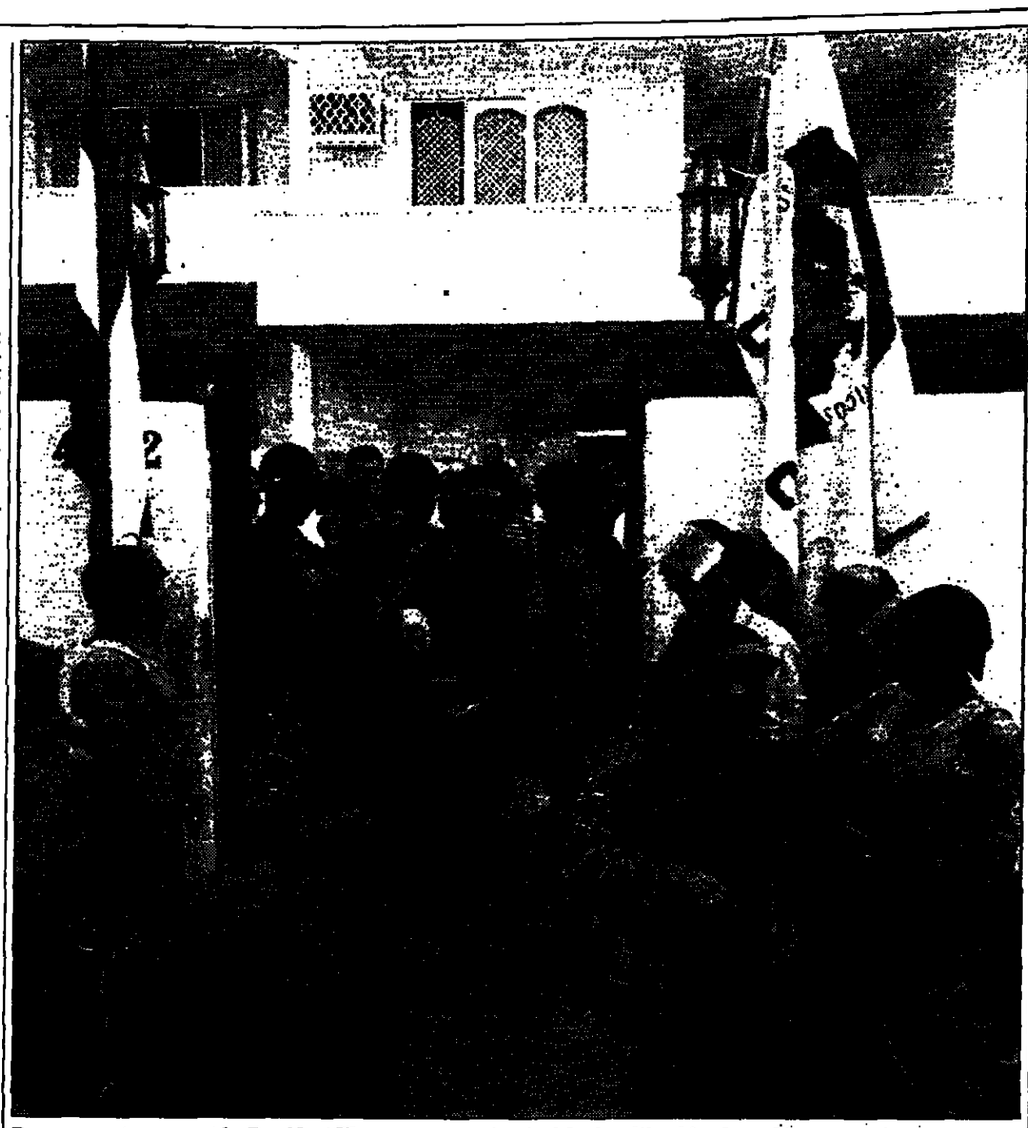
Lasers to spell out democracy

A GROUP of Cuban exiles plans to sail across the Florida Strait today and light up the sky over Havana with a pro-democracy message written with laser beams.

The Miami-based Democracy Movement said a flotilla of boats leaving from Key West also hoped to encourage a national strike.

The movement has asked Havana residents to gather at dusk to bang pots and pans in protest.

An attempt at the crossing last month was postponed because bad weather would have affected visibility. — *Reuters*.



Paraguayan troops sent by President Wasmosy to arrest a rival for insulting him, leave his home in Asuncion empty handed. Lino Oviedo was away campaigning for his presidential candidacy next year PHOTOGRAPH: NORBERTO DUARTE

US visit puts seal on successful year for Jiang

Martin Kettle in Washington

PRESIDENT Jiang Zemin ran a gauntlet of capitalistic chaos yesterday morning, rubbing shoulders with business leaders, attracting Tibetan independence protests and ringing the New York stock exchange's opening bell.

The Chinese leader's week-long visit to the United States draws to an end this weekend with a batch of engagements that epitomise the ambivalent character of the entire trip.

He will stroll today through the leafy surroundings of Harvard University, revelling in the opportunity to present himself as a respectful and respected visitor to the country's oldest seat of learning — providing he can dodge the expected protests.

Tomorrow he will meet Hughes Satellite and Boeing executives in California to cement China's interest in spending big money on US hi-tech engineering products. China signed a contract this week to purchase 50 planes from Boeing for $3 billion (£1.8 billion) and no one believes that is the end of the buying spree.

To Mr Jiang, there have been three principal purposes to his visit. The first is political, to carry out a successful high-profile visit to the world's most powerful country which both establishes Mr Jiang's ascendancy at home and consolidates China's position abroad.

The US visit caps a triumphant year for the Chinese president. A year that also brought the return of Hong Kong and the successful party congress in September leaves him incontestably the second most powerful political leader on the planet.

The second purpose of the visit was commercial. China's rapid economic expansion has created a demand for environmentally friendly energy resources which Beijing is technologically unable to supply. No country is better placed to supply those needs than the US.

China wanted to buy and the US wanted to sell, but the deals required movement on both sides before that could happen. Beijing had to give assurances that it would stop shipping nuclear know-how and technology to dangerous Third World states, especially Iran, while Washington had to find a plausible reason to lift its 12-year ban on nuclear co-operation with China.

This week the deal was struck and both sides now have what they most sought from the summit.

The third purpose of the visit was diplomatic. Both sides wanted the summit. China wanted to raise its international profile. The US wanted to put its "constructive engagement" strategy to the test. There had not been a summit since Tiananmen Square eight years ago.

Both sides knew they were taking a risk but calculated they could handle it.

Salinas says privilege, not drugs, built his fortune

Julia Preston and Peter Truell question the jailed brother of Mexico's ex-president

WHEN his brother was president of Mexico, Raul Salinas de Gortari lived the high life, enjoying the thoroughbred horses, fast cars and luxurious houses readily available to someone who could deposit more than £60 million in Swiss bank accounts.

Now, after spending much of the last three years in Mexico's harshest prison, he says that he amassed his fortune legitimately, but admits that he did so by seizing the "huge opportunities" the relationship to President Carlos Salinas brought.

Jailed in February 1995 on suspicion of murder, he vigorously denies the charges and the allegation that he was paid by Mexico's drug barons to protect their multi-billion-dollar enterprises.

Denied a direct meeting with reporters, Mr Salinas responded with 10 pages of replies to written questions from the New York Times.

"I always have had private business, and when you are the brother of the president of Mexico, many huge opportunities come to you, as happened to me," he wrote. "There was no need for me, with the position I had, to get involved with drug dealers."

One opportunity, he said, arose in 1993 when the government sold a leading television network to private investors for $641 million. He confirmed that he lent the leading investor $30 million around the time of the sale because he was certain he would make a profit and it would be "a good one".

The disclosure two years ago that American banks helped Raul Salinas move more than $100 million to Swiss accounts prompted investigations in Mexico, Switzerland and the United States which are not yet completed.

He said most of the money was put up by private Mexican investors for an investment fund to finance international trade projects in Mexico when his brother's term was over.

The interview was arranged by Stanley Arkin, Mr Salinas's New York lawyer, who also arranged conversations with members of his family in Mexico, including his father and three siblings.

Adriana, aged 47, who runs a publishing company; Enrique, aged 44, a civil engineer; and Sergio, aged 43, a sociologist, criticised their brother Raul for making "stupid mistakes" and misusing the privileges he gained from his brother's presidency. But they denied that anyone in the family had any role in drug trafficking or the theft of government money.

They claimed that the overzealous authorities had demonised Raul and other relatives of the former president, who is widely blamed for the economic crisis that erupted just after he left office in 1994.

"When a wounded animal falls, the hyenas close in to finish it off," Adriana Salinas said. "The authorities are trying to finish us off from every side by attempting to show that we are thieves, drug traffickers and amoral people."

They said they were stunned to learn of the huge balances in Raul's Swiss accounts, and said his use of false documents and other financial subterfuges was "indefensible".

"Raul was in a very influential position in my brother's administration, in which he had many business opportunities," Enrique Salinas said. "We know that this is a common situation for someone who is in the president's family, but we feel that Raul overdid it. He was a show-off. He abused his possibilities."

Carlos Salinas, whose reputation was wrecked by Raul's scandals, is living in exile in Dublin. — *New York Times*.

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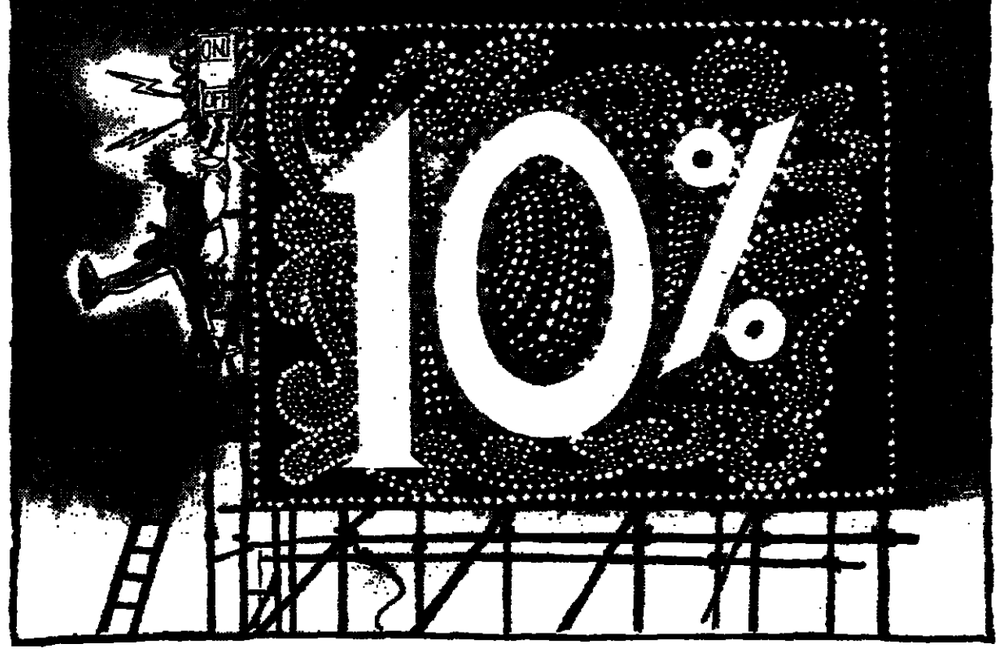

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هكذا من الاصل

هكذا من الاصل

Fuller . . . 'relentlessly chomping on fat cigars, he remained a compulsive talker and a characterful maverick in an industry he observed declining into blandness'

Samuel Fuller

Rifle and movie camera

CINEMA for Samuel Fuller, who has died aged 86, was "Like a battlefield. Love, hate, action, violence, death. In a word, emotion." He lived up to his maxim. The resulting forceful body of work was never accused of understatement or subtlety, or of ducking the truth as he saw it.

Critic turned director Peter Bogdanovich accurately called him "the most explosive talent ever to blast its way through Poverty Row. Eccentric, iconoclastic and in the tradition of tabloid journalism, his pictures all bear the same vibrant, individualistic stamp."

This individual stamp is evident in the actual movies he directed, which demand to be seen and heard. The screenplays yield little and a synopsis is redundant, since the movies often lack conventional structural coherence. Fuller's technique involved long takes and abrupt cutting, with almost subliminal shots. Elaborate dolly shots would be used, yet the camera could remain unnervingly still — particularly when watching a scene of pain or violence.

His films were brutally in your face, with a passion that reflected his concern with America, the politics of life and his formative years. Fuller was a journalist, a writer of pulp novels, a much-decorated soldier, a screenwriter for himself and others. He was also an opinionated, rat-a-tat-tat raconteur and self-publicist, who often delighted National Film Theatre and London Film Festival audiences. Relentlessly chomping on fat cigars, Fuller remained a characterful maverick in an industry he observed declining into blandness.

Fuller began work as a copy boy on the New York Journal when barely a teenager. At 17 he became the city's youngest crime reporter and worked on newspapers across the country during the 1920s and 1930s. In essence, he remained a reporter and cartoonist all his life, investing his work with the immediacy — even crudeness — of that profession. He also wrote short stories and in 1935 published, the first of his pulp novels, *Burn Baby Burn*. A year later, he co-wrote the film *Hats Off* and seven screenplays followed, including *Gangs of New York* (1938) and *Power of the Press* (1943), plus numerous books under different names, including *The Dark Page* (1944), later filmed.

In 1942, he joined the army, serving with the US 16th Infantry in North Africa and Europe. He received the Bronze Star, the Silver Star and the Purple Heart. His experiences were immortalised in several war films including the autobiographical *The Big Red One* (1980) and *Merrill's Marauders* (1962).

After the war, Fuller returned to screenwriting with a remake of *Gangs of New York*, retitled *Gangs of the Waterfront*. More notable was a taut melodrama, *Shockproof* (1949) directed by Douglas Sirk. That year also marked Fuller's directorial debut with the western *I Shot Jesse James*, from his own screenplay. It disregarded the conventions of the greatest of all movie genres, and with its contrived narrative, odd relationships and complicated emotions — presented but never analysed — might be seen as archetypal Fuller. But a minuscule budget and a comparative immaturity dictated physical constraints and the movie was shot mostly in close-ups. There is a claustrophobic intensity to the story of James's murder by his friend, who on his death bed confesses that he loved the outlaw.

The Baron of Arizona (1950), a more interesting western, followed and Fuller was up and running. Two war films were made almost back-to-back in 1951. Both *Steel Helmet* and *Fixed Bayonets* concern men under pressure during the Korean war and share an unsentimental view of battle, a dedication to American values and a stated anti-Communism that informed much of his work.

A year later, Fuller made an even more personal work, investing $200,000 of his own money in the production. *Park Row*, written, produced and directed by Fuller was a vivid homage to his ex-profession, journalism. Set in the 1880s and starring Gene Evans (who had acted in his two previous films), it compresses myriad events into a week's story and 83 minutes breathless screen time. The plot, about newspaper rivals, almost defies analysis and probably criticism, but after this cathartic work he moved on to the first of his crime movies, *Pickup on South Street* (1953), financed by 20th Century Fox.

Made at the height of the *McCarthy era*, it received short shrift from some critics because of its seeming right-wing views. But it remains a stunning portrait of three low-lifers, informant Moe, a pickpocket Skip and a former prostitute Candy, who populate the dingy rooms, rain-washed streets and the subway where Skip, plying his trade, gets involved with a spy working for the Communists.

'After 15 years on the margins at festivals and retrospectives, Fuller achieved the impossible. A 25 year project – his autobiographical war film – was financed by Hollywood. It was a great success'

Fuller's work was becoming more complex, better cast and financed, but he was still on the B-movie treadmill and quickly wrote *Prince of Players* and *The Command*, and wrote and directed *Hell and High Water*, all in 1954. In the following year, he made another crime movie, *House of Bamboo*, which blended elements of race (a recurring theme) and war within its thriller format. It marked his first screen appearance — he acted many times either for distinguished colleagues — including Godard, Corman, Hopper, Coppola, — or for money, as in *Return to Salem's Lot* (1987).

In 1957 Fuller wrote, produced and directed three movies, *China Gate*, the magnificent *Forty Guns* and one of his masterpieces, *Run of the Arrow*, a melancholy study of a Southerner who, by chance, fires the last shot in the Civil War and wounds a Unionist officer. Unable to face the outcome of the war he joins the Sioux. This densely textured movie, with its impassioned performance from Rod Steiger, formed part of Fuller's richest period and following the dynamic *Forty Guns* came a further six works for Fox and Columbia.

Among these was another film concerned with national identity, *The Crimson Kimono* (1959), and a rigorous gangster movie, *Underworld USA* (1961). An oddity about neo-Nazism, *Verboten!* (1959) uses actual concentration camp footage to disturbing effect, but was tangential to his war films which peaked with *Merrill's Marauders* (1962).

His next work was an independent production and must stand as one of the most outrageous, passionate and controversial films ever made. *Shock Corridors* (1963) places a journalist inside an asylum as an investigator, and the portrait presented is of the asylum as a microcosm of America. The movie — upsetting even today — might be seen as exploitative were it not for Fuller's vision and personality which present a painful view of his truth. This extraordinary, even ugly, movie was followed by *The Naked Kiss* (1964), which he later turned into a novel.

From the mid-1960s onwards, Fuller found it difficult to work as a director. There were screenplays, books, screen appearances, and a few more films, but as the studio system crumbled he and directors such as Budd Boetticher, Joseph H Lewis and Edgar G Ulmer were relegated to maverick productions or television, which was largely responsible for their plight. During the 1960s, Fuller directed at least half a dozen of the *Iron Horse* series, one or two of *The Virginian*, a pilot for a series, *Dogface* (1963) which flopped and an episode of the popular *Dick Powell Show*.

Times were lean enough for him to rework his screenplay of *Pickup on South Street* into *The Cape Town Affair* (1967). Sadly a more personal project, *Shark* (1969) ended disastrously and he had his directorial credit removed.

Fuller had not received the critical support he deserved in his own country, and fared only slightly better in Britain. In France, the position was markedly different and his stock grew higher in Europe thanks to film appearances including Jean-Luc Godard's *Pierrot Le Fou* (1963); Dennis Hopper's *The Last Movie* (1971) and Wim Wender's *The American Friend* (1977). He even found work as a director in Europe but *Dead Pigeon on Beethoven Street* (1972), which he wrote, directed and acted in (and turned into a novel two years later) was wilful and obscure and little seen outside festivals.

In 1974 he also wrote the appalling *The Klansman* for Terence Young and throughout the decade appeared in films ranging from Corman's *The Young Nurses* (1973) to the biopic *Scott Joplin* (1977).

After a 15-year period on the margins of mainstream cinema, working in TV for other directors and attending festivals and retrospectives, Fuller achieved the seemingly impossible. A 25-year project — his autobiographically inspired *The Big Red One* — was financed by Hollywood and shot in Israel, starring Lee Marvin.

A summation of his earlier war movies and an exhausting coda to the real thing, it proved less than the box office smash he needed. It and the director were the subject of a Dutch documentary — just one of the several feature-length films about him.

The most intriguing — and indulgent of these was Jim Jarmusch's *Tigrero, A Film that was Never Made* (1994), an extended illustrated conversation about Fuller's abortive film in the Brazilian jungle. It tried the patience of even dedicated film buffs at the Berlin Film Festival. More successful was the BFI's documentary *The Typewriter, The Rifle and The Movie Camera* (1996).

The emergence of his war movie saw him invited back to Hollywood for an odd climax to his career with *The White Dog* (1982). It had the distinction of being banned for a while and failed spectacularly with the public who could no longer stomach the crude, passionate and uneasy portrait of racism, shown by the story of a dog that only attacks blacks.

He subsequently directed two European co-productions, *Thieves After Dark* (1983) and *Street of No Return* (1989) and appeared in further movies including *Red Dawn* (1984) and *La Vie de Bohème* (1992).

Fuller had chosen to live in Paris since the early 1980s with his second wife, actress Crista Lang. He never ceased working, claiming literally hundreds of embryo projects and some 20 or 30 in advanced states of readiness. Sadly, there was less room for such mavericks or primitives — as the critic Andrew Sarris dubbed him — in an increasingly juvenile and money-obsessed film industry.

But Fuller remained a force in the movies long after the main work ceased, not least because — like all the great cinematographers — his work could exist in no other form. Seeing just one of Fuller's best works is sufficient to convince any discerning viewer that he was a movie maker of high individuality and resolute integrity.

Brian Baxter

Samuel Michael Fuller, filmmaker and writer, born August 12, 1911; died October 30, 1997

Face to Faith

The church of celebrity

Bob Holman

I HAVE long enjoyed TV's Songs of Praise. I get encouragement from ordinary people singing hymns. But of late, ordinary churchgoers have become little more than warm-up acts for famous personalities like Harry Secombe and Cliff Richard.

The trend is to push into the front line of Christianity people whose fame derives from showbiz, sport, politics and business. The message is that, if these successful people are Christians, that should be good enough for you.

Part of my uneasiness about identifying Christianity with the famous is that it is at odds with the nature of the early church with its message: join us because Christ is in our midst. The apostle Paul wrote: "My friends, think what sort of people you are, whom God has called. Few of you are wise by any human standard, few powerful or of noble birth. . . He [God] has chosen things without rank or standing in the world, mere nothings, to overthrow the existing order."

My other objection is that the famous tend to be the wealthy. That does not seem to concern preachers and writers. They devote much time to topics like sexuality, culture, gender, the family and the Toronto blessing. But when did a bishop last hit the headlines by proclaiming that the affluent should take seriously Jesus's injunction to "sell your possessions, and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come and follow me". The incompatibility between Christianity and the drive for material gain is the neglected part of the gospel.

According to the New Testament, the aggrandisement of wealth is dangerous; it displaces God. Jesus stated powerfully: "You cannot serve God and money." It means that some get too much while others have too little. They are not living in accordance with the instruction of John the Baptist: "Whoever has two shirts must share with him who has none, and whoever has food must do the same."

And it is disobedience to Jesus's command: "Do not store up for yourselves treasure on earth." Jesus held the sins associated with the lust for money so serious that he said it was easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.

Following the day of Pentecost when hundreds were converted to Christianity, the believers began to sell their property and possessions and distribute them to everyone according to his need. Leaders were chosen not from the rich and famous, but from ordinary people drawn to Jesus. One instructed followers not to give status to the "well-dressed man" rather than the "poor man in grimy clothes."

Low-income residents of the inner cities and council estates are now largely outside the Christian church. This is not to say they do not want religion. I live on the Easterhouse estate in Glasgow where I have been encouraging residents to write about themselves. None were churchgoers, but nearly all expressed spiritual needs. They need a church geared to them, not to the affluent.

What can the church do to return to its roots? It should ensure that its positions of influence are not predominantly in the hands of those with high status. It should move its headquarters, colleges and personnel, to areas of social need, where they should serve poor residents.

The church should proclaim Christ's truths to the rich. Archbishops should convey to the royal family the warnings about huge possessions. The Christian Socialist Movement should rebuke cabinet ministers — many of whom are members — for drawing enormous salaries. The priests who take lunch-time services for financiers in the city of London should encourage them to give to the poor.

It sounds crazy. It is according to the standards of the world. A recent newspaper article rejoiced that John Major did succeed magnificently in transferring money "from the have-nots to the haves". His theme is that the relentless chase for money and prestige is the mechanism for national prosperity. These are the values of the world, but they contradict the values of Christianity. It is time for the church to return to Jesus's teachings on the dangers of riches. If it does, it will draw in many citizens who regard religion as just for the respectable. If it can convey the same values to economic Britain, it will also make for a more Christian society.

Even the media might change its ways. Every Christmas, the BBC gives number one slot to the luxurious King's College Chapel in Cambridge where elite schoolboys sing carols to the rich and famous. It might replace this by a church of the ordinary in the inner city. The kind of service where somebody born in a stable would feel comfortable.

Bob Holman is the author of Towards Equality. A Christian Manifesto, SPCK.

Weekend Birthdays

Poor Nigel Dempster, 56 today. Imagine this figure, who would like to have belonged to the era of great liners docking among streamers and steamer trunks, having to deal daily with the sort of people who fly Virgin (or BA — and not always first class). The arch-gossip's traffic has been tremendous the last couple of years, what with royal divorce and death and the 1996 launch of his namesake glossy mag. But we have this feeling that his tittle-tattle business is changing. He admits the differences in his diocese since his delicate feet first danced with the debs in 1959. There's no shame now, he says, and "when I started in gossip, gossip was in the gossip columns — now everywhere's a gossip column."

And the Daily Mail's readers have been taught over the last three decades to want more spice and certainly more spite, they long to hear about their richers (you'd hardly describe the cast of his paragraphs as "betters") behaving with a self-aggrandising badness which used to be considered dead common. Oh, poor Nigel: he must have been looking forward to muting in age into the perfect courtier, expert on precedent and protocol — and now the Windsors are tearing up the rulebook like everybody else.

Today's other birthdays
Umberto Agnelli, former deputy chairman, Fiat, 63; **Victoria de los Angeles**, soprano, 74; **Prof Sir Hermann Bondi**, physicist, humanist, 78; **Sharron Davies**, swimmer, 35; **Tazeena Firth**, stage designer, 62; **Bruce Grocott**, Labour MP, 57; **Mark Hughes**, footballer, 34; **Andrew Knight**, former chairman, News International, 58; **Ted Lowe**, snooker commentator, 77; **Dr J Dickson Mabon**, former Labour minister, 72; **Naomi Mitchison**, novelist, 100; **Nick Owen**, broadcaster, 50; **Gary Player**, golfer, 62; **John Pullen**, rugby player, 56; **Gerald Ratner**, former chairman, Ratners jewellers, 48.

Tomorrow's birthdays
Sir David Calcutt QC, press arbiter, master, Magdalene College, Cambridge, 67; **Keith Emerson**, rock musician, 53; **Fred Fairbrass**, pop singer, 41; **Marianne Haslegrave**, international women's campaigner, 55; **Paul Johnson**, columnist and writer, 69; **Alan Jones**, grand prix driver, 51; **David Lea**, assistant general secretary, TUC, 60; **Dr Jack Leonard**, chairman, British Technology Group, 66; **Juliet Mills**, actress, 56; **Denis Murphy**, Labour MP, 49; **Dame Pauline Neville-Jones**, managing director, NatWest Markets 58; **Sir Peter Newsam**, educationalist, 69; **Ken Rosewall**, tennis player, 63; **Lord Sainsbury of Preston Candover**, chairman, J Sainsbury plc, 70; **Bruce Welch**, guitarist, 56.

Death Notices

WILSON. Ruth Elsa Maria (Née Gustafson in Alingsas, Sweden). Peacefully in her sleep on 27th October 1997 after a bad illness borne with great courage, aged 84. Beloved widow of Frank, loving mother to John/Jack and Anita and caring grandmother and great grandmother. The funeral service will be held at 12 noon on Wednesday 5th November at the Methodist Church in Watlington, Oxfordshire. Family flowers only please. Donations to the British Heart Foundation, or any enquiries, should be addressed to Tomalin & Son, 38 Reading Road, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon RG9 1AG. Tel: 01491-573370.

In Memoriam

CHAUHAN. Chimen N, so strong was your presence, your spirit of life and strong will be our memories. Sushila, Varsha, Harsha and Vinay.

GOODYER SAIT. Jake Henry, 1st November 1993. All our love on your 4th birthday. John, Jane, Camilla and Isobel.

Memorial Services

FOORD. A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Anthony Foord DFC, will be held on Thursday, November 20th, 1997 at 2pm in Aldeburgh Parish Church.

Marriages

TO DAD AND ANNE on your wedding day. Congratulations on this very special day you both deserve all the happiness in the world. All our love Jon and Kirsty.

To place your announcement telephone 0171 713 4567 or fax 0171 713 4129 between 9am and 3pm Mon-Fri.

Talib Shibib

A career in opposition and exile

TALIB Shibib, who has died aged 63, was appointed Iraq's foreign minister in 1963, and later became a fervent opponent of Saddam Hussein.

He was born in Babylon, but by 1956, he was in Britain studying engineering and rallying support against the British intervention in Suez. In 1958 he returned to Iraq and was elected to the leadership of the Baath Party, and was one of a triumvirate who planned the later coup against President Abdul Karim Qassim, becoming foreign minister. Internal disagreements led to a split, and when Shibib refused to order the military to crush the rebels, he went into exile.

After a second coup in 1968, Shibib was given several ambassadorial posts. However, in 1976 his increasing criticism of Saddam Hussein's policies put his life in danger. He resigned from his post as Iraqi ambassador to Germany and devoted the rest of his life to campaigning against Saddam and for a democratic Iraq.

In 1990, following the invasion of Kuwait, he joined other opposition figures, summoned to Riyadh by Prince Bander, the Saudi ambassador to Washington. It was hoped that the opposition would elect a leadership, and the new grouping was promised arms and money. The American fear of an Iranian invasion of Iraq led it to sponsor the Iraqi National Congress, headed by Ahmed Chelabi, which emerged as the opposition's umbrella organisation.

Talib Shibib, a founding member of the Chelabi-inspired grouping, tried to encourage Iraqi generals to defect to northern Iraq, where it was hoped they would join in the effort to overthrow Saddam. When this did not materialise, the INC became plagued with administrative problems and disagreements. It finally disintegrated in September 1996, after the Iraqi army crushed the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan at the behest of the rival Kurdistan Democratic Party.

Shibib . . . opposed Saddam

Shibib, anxious that the lust for power among Saddam's opponents did not divide the opposition movement, proposed a charter of honour. He suggested opposition personalities should refrain from attempting to take up government positions in a post-Saddam Iraq and pledge to act as monitors of human rights and establishment of the rule of law.

Talib Shibib is survived by his wife and two sons.

Karen Dabrowska

Talib Shibib, politician, born March 22, 1934; died October 12, 1997

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Tough justice in America

But the nanny got a fair trial

NOW there is a glimmer of hope. The parents of Louise Woodward entered the 12th floor of the Massachusetts criminal court yesterday assuming they were there to witness the bleakest of scenes: their daughter despatched to America's oldest and grimmest women's prison, there to spend every day of her life from now until 2012 — at the earliest. But there was a twist, in the form of Judge Hiller Zobel's highly unusual hint that the teenager's murder conviction could be reduced to one for involuntary manslaughter. If nothing else, the Woodwards can now grasp the small comfort of knowing their gruesome story is not over yet.

Yesterday's reaction in Britain suggests they are not suffering alone. Louise's friends in the Cheshire town of Elton have launched a campaign demanding justice for the 19-year-old, and yesterday's phone-in shows were buzzing in agreement. "Miscarriage of justice," cried many. "A travesty," said others. One man gave out the number of the American Embassy, so Britons could accuse the Clinton administration directly of human rights abuses. Such an outburst of emotion is wholly understandable from the family and friends of Louise Woodward. But among those with no direct stake in the story of the au pair and the baby who died on her watch, cooler heads should prevail.

A useful start will be to drop the current presumption — voiced in a different context last week by Robin Cook — that British justice is inherently superior to any legal system abroad. Maybe our courts are preferable to those in Saudi Arabia, but Massachusetts is not in the dark ages. The US is a society built on the rule of law, much of it drawn from our own. Besides, a nation which has seen overturned convictions of the Birmingham Six, Guildford Four and Bridgwater Four is in no position to boast of unblemished superiority in the justice department. Nor is it right to say that Louise Woodward was denied a fair trial. For three weeks her case was put by Barry Scheck, one of the most aggressive, highly-rated defence lawyers in America. He exhausted every line of inquiry, often in minute detail, leaving nothing to chance. The jurors clearly took their duty seriously. Not for them the four-hour sprint of the OJ Simpson deliberations; they weighed the evidence for a marathon 27 hours. When most observers thought Ms Woodward would be acquitted, there was no talk of mistrial. It was the verdict they didn't like, not the proceedings that led to it.

People have complained about trial by television. In fact, one of the few drawbacks of cameras-in-the-courtroom is the tendency of TV viewers to believe they're as qualified to judge a case as the jury. Suddenly everyone's an expert, even when few outside the court heard every witness or saw every exhibit. The media circus may be annoying, but it is irrelevant: the jurors were quarantined away, unable to see the TV or read the papers. They would have been utterly unaware of the Eappens' CBS interview, aired while Louise's fate was still undecided. As for the coverage before the trial — of a type banned in Britain under our ever-tighter contempt rules — most of it was tilted heavily in the au pair's *favour*. Indeed, those who have interpreted the Boston trial as a stirring of age-old anti-British sentiment in the colonies are wide of the mark. The whole reason why British girls like Louise Woodward are highly in demand in the US is because of the enduring *pro*-British feeling there. The Eappens thought they were hiring Mary Poppins.

We should all pause for a moment, and wonder how we might have felt if a British couple had lost their baby while in the hands of an American nanny. Would we have sided with her against them, regardless of the evidence? Maybe not. The sorry tale of Louise Woodward is not an American atrocity, but a fair trial which ended in a verdict that may have gone wrong. And now there is a chance for a kind of mercy. We wish her and her family well.

A fair Irish winner

An election to be taken seriously

THE Irish presidential campaign has ended in victory for the candidate who always looked most likely to succeed — though she was at times heavily talked down. The whole campaign has been submitted to a fair amount of rubbishing in some parts of the British media. References to the sex of the four female candidates ("colleens" in more than one headline), to their clothes and make-up, were only part of it. It was implied or said openly, with more than a touch of male prejudice, that this was a contest of appearance rather than substance. In the end even Rosemary Scallon — or Dana — transcended her Eurovision tag and earned respect for her skill in securing nomination.

The Irish Times concluded that all five contestants were excellent candidates. This was a fair judgement especially if they are contrasted with the succession of pensioned-off politicans and seedy party hacks who used to dominate the election and the post. That ritual was only brought to a close in 1990 when Mary Robinson trounced Brian Lenihan — after some dubious dealings on Charles Haughey's behalf were exposed.

Mary McAleese also owed her selection partly and rightly to an overwhelming feeling — known as Anyone But Albert (Reynolds) — that Fianna Fail could not afford to run a candidate who was part of the old machine. But she has been a strong contestant in her own right, a person with great energy and personality and with a dynamic intellect. Her northern background has not counted against her: on the contrary it may seem an attractive way of bridging the gap in an Ireland where the peace process has begun to smooth sharp edges. There are fears that she may not be welcome to many Unionists: but her constituency is in the Republic, not in Ulster. Ms McAleese became the target of some old-fashioned smearing after a leaked document led to accusations that she was a "tribal timebomb." The result indicates that this attempt to label her as pro-Sinn Fein has rebounded in her favour.

It is still possible to have reservations about a streak of nationalism which may be too narrow — and about her stand against abortion. But she is not a person easy to pigeon-hole. She also supports gay rights and has a progressive view on penal reform. Ms Robinson has shown that the ceremonial post of presidency can carry significant weight. The candidate who has been chosen convincingly by the voters of the Republic deserves a fair reception as she follows this strong act.

Letters to the Editor

How to manage a cash crisis

WITH reference to Michael Billington's article (Savage and stupid, October 28), what's at stake here is not just the funding of individual theatres such as the Gate but the future of the arts in the capital.

The London Arts Board has argued consistently for increased funding. Despite this we have remained on standstill for five years. We now find ourselves £1.4 million short of the sum needed just to keep all our arts organisations working at their current depleted level. This is unlikely to change in 1998/99. We have a choice: to sit by and allow great arts organisations to decline and collapse, or to take our courage in our hands and invest to ensure their survival.

Earlier this year we began a fundamental review of our arts funding. As a result, we hope to be able to announce later in the year increases to more than 60 companies for 1998/99. But in order to invest in most companies, we will need to reduce, or withdraw, funding from a few. As it happens, the Gate is not one of those. We intend to maintain its core grant of £15,352 in 1998/99. A time expired, one-off grant of £50,000 over 1996/97 and 1997/98 was precisely that.

We would love to have the cash to place the Gate on an equal footing with its peer theatres, not least so that the Gate could start to pay all its artists union rates. But if Michael Billington intends to take up cudgels on behalf of every one who may suffer a reduction in funding, he equally needs to point out from which other organisations he would take the money.
Trevor Phillips.
Chairman,
London Arts Board.
133 Long Acre,
London WC2E 9AF.

DAVID Farr writes (We will be pushed off the precipice, October 28) that "The Bush receives £440,000 from government". Unless David knows some truly fabulous news that I don't, this is more than double our main LAB grant.
Deborah Aydon.
General Manager,
The Bush Theatre
Shepherds Bush Green,
London W12 8QD.

THE financial difficulties of the Royal Opera House were explained to us at two meetings last week but management categorically reconfirmed that there would be no redundancies within the ballet company — the complete opposite of Dan Glaister's information (Crisis time at Royal Opera, October 30).
Peter Abegglen.
Equity representative and the dancers of the Royal Ballet,
Covent Garden,
London WC2E 9DD.

We do not publish letters where only an e-mail address is supplied; please include a full postal address. We may edit letters: shorter ones are more likely to appear. We cannot acknowledge those not used

Louise: the readers' jury

OUR government must mount an immediate demand for the return of this teenager to the UK (Louise: guilty of murder, October 31). As I understand it, the defence were not allowed to examine the brain tissue of Matthew Eappen which was destroyed. The parents were allowed to go on TV saying Louise was guilty before the verdict was given and, more importantly, the jury was allowed to see this TV coverage.

The people who should be in the dock are Matthew Eapen's parents who employed an 18-year-old au pair rather than a more costly fully-trained nanny. Louise is English. The jury were American, so it was unlikely from the start that they would not be prejudiced against her.
U M Crews.
1 Dellfield Close,
Beckenham, Kent BR3 5UJ.

IT WOULD seem that the United States is a dangerous place for Brits in particular to go — facing either violence from hoods or the American Judiciary itself. Perhaps a warning needs to be issued to our people travelling there? I hope the judge will release this woman on the basis that the verdict is wrong and because such an act will make his name!
Bob Goodall.
8 Belmont Court,
Belmont Hill,
St Albans, Herts AL1 1RB.

THE time has come to demolish the American Bar Association Memorial at Runnymede: after the travesty of justice meted out to Louise Woodward, its presence there is a gross obscenity.
John Roberts.
1 Capel Flynnon,
Pentregat, Llandysul,
Dyfed SA44 6HW.

I THOUGHT the lynch mob had been consigned to the dustbin of the second-rate American movie until I saw it carry Louise Woodward away.
Dennis Ruston.
7 High Street, Horbling,
Sleasford, Lincs NG34 0PE.

IS Louise's conviction subconscious revenge for O J's acquittal?
Kay Thomas.
Brookledge Lane, Adlington,
Macclesfield SK10 4JX.

IF she really killed Matthew Eappen, Louise Woodward's crime was one of passion, not of premeditated murder. In *crime passionnel*, French law acknowledges that a person in a close emotional relationships sometimes feels like killing the other, and occasionally does so. Ms Woodward could quite possibly have felt that the child was killing her. This is not to blame Matthew, who was just doing his best to get looked after.
(Dr) Sebastian Kraemer.
Tavistock Clinic,
120 Belsize Lane NW3 5BA.

I AM surprised that the Guardian has been so biased in its coverage of this trial. Regardless of public sympathies, the evidence deserved presenting as it stood. Why then has much of your reportage concerned itself with the defence case?

If you are not to join those English titles that insist on innocence on the grounds that Ms Woodward is 19 years old, female and British, it is better to present less opinion and more objective fact.
Patrick Worthington.
121 Pathfield Road,
London SW16 5PA.

LIKE many others, I had hoped that Louise Woodward would be acquitted, given the apparent evidence relentlessly paraded before us. But I have worked enough years in the criminal justice system of this country to bow to the realities of the legal process. However, one major lesson I do hope will be learned from this trial is the danger for any young woman or man in accepting employment as a carer for young children.

Had I a daughter "in service" to any family, anywhere, I would immediately bring her home to safety. The task of caring daily for young children is an onerous one. It needs the daily support of family and friends, and is exacerbated by the lack of experience of life of so many of the "nannies" or *au pairs* placed in families. It can be a good and valuable experience — but it can be an excuse for exploitation, exposing the carer to unbearable stress.

Thank God, I don't have a daughter in Louise Woodward's position. If you potentially do, then protect her.
Lady Diana Falkiner.
Arch Cottage,
Goodrich HR9 6HY.

No Spice please, we're British

TO my disgust and horror, I read that the Spice Girls have launched this year's poppy appeal (Photograph, October 30). I myself — and, believe me, I am not alone — am sick to death of the Spice Girls. Everywhere you turn there are the Spice Girls. I was hoping that the unwarranted euphoria surrounding them would fade away, but now they are attacking the fabric and tradition of what Britain is built on.

Despite being in my twenties, the poppy appeal has been a time to remember people who lost their lives for this country, and not just another publicity stunt for the sickening Spices. This year's appeal has been severely cheapened by their presence and, for the first time, I find myself in a dilemma as to whether or not to buy a poppy. When will the madness end!
Nick Stone.
91 Brick Lane,
London E1 6QN.

Through a video camera, darkly

TERRY Thomas's questions on the use of video surveillance are ill-conceived (Letters, October 29). Does he believe that telling parents the truth, ie that they were suspected of abusing their children, would have led professionals to be better able to protect children?

Evidence for care orders, in our experience, has to be overwhelming before the local authority's case is accepted. Mr Thomas appears to miss the point, ie that children were saved from harm by the use of covert surveillance.

As social workers and counsellors working to protect children from abuse, we recognise that child protection involves difficult ethical choices that infringe the "rights" of parents. Perhaps Mr Thomas should return to social work practice from his ivory tower to understand the difficult ethical dimensions, which both social work and medical professionals make every day in order to protect children.
Lynn Corbett.
and four others.
Social Services Department,
Essex County Council,
116 High Street,
Maldon CM9 7BS.

Iraq: who do sanctions hurt?

THERE are anomalies relating to the UN's sabre-rattling regarding Iraq's refusal to allow in US inspectors and the continuing embargo (Britain says Iraq risks allied strike, October 31).

The countries on the Security Council (primarily the US, Britain and France) armed Iraq in the first place so must have an inventory of weaponry supplied. It has also to be wondered whether the UN has a fiscal interest in the continuation of the embargo, since instead of being in its usual state of financial frailty, it has $100 million allocated every 90 days to cover the costs of implementing Security Council Resolution 986, the — for Iraq — woefully inadequate "oil for food" deal.

In 1995, the World Food Programme wrote that: "Time is running out for the children of Iraq." I have to hand the latest embargo-related child mortality figures. They show that time ran out for 1,211,285 children between August 1990 — when sanctions were implemented — and August 1997. Whilst Britain and the US bleat about the rights of the UN inspectors, they might also reflect on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
Felicity Arbuthnot.
London E9.

I AM outraged that the Government is considering "sympathetically" a request by Iraq to unfreeze their assets in the UK. The same report revealed that huge sums had been paid to multinationals that suffered losses after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

Our small company, which was involved in the export of medical re-agents to the Ministry of Health in Kuwait, lost a valuable source of income and growth at that time to the Americans. We have not received one penny in compensation. Why is the Government discriminating against small companies?
Name and address supplied.

HUNDREDS of British people are still awaiting compensation agreed years ago by the UN for their losses after the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq. I am one of them. In the summer, I suggested that the Government pay our compensation from these Iraqi assets and that it should be the Iraqi government (who started the war and caused our losses) that should have to wait for sufficient assets to be accrued to the UN fund. This proposed change adds a whole new meaning to an ethical approach to foreign policy.
Name and address supplied.

Children, chips and corruption

YOUR Leader on child labour (October 30) recognises the seriousness of the issue and the steps that need to be taken to make a real difference, including the need to focus on the most serious forms such as child bonded labour and child prostitution.

We would, however, like to point out that no bonded child labour has been found in the football industry in Sialkot. Indeed, stitching footballs is acknowledged as less hazardous than other industries, which is why all efforts must be made to ensure that children are not pushed into other work.
Lesley Roberts.
Business Standards Advisor,
Pentland Group plc.
Squires Lane,
London N3 2QL.

SO a write-in campaign has been launched to have Kemal Ataturk elected Man-of-the-Century (Report, October 30). Given the genocidal character of his régime, one presumes that Adolf Hitler and Pol Pot will be the runners-up.
Peter Sarris.
All Souls College,
Oxford OX1 4AL.

The Man of the Century — no, Person of the Century — is Primo Levi, for telling it its most important truth with unparalleled wisdom and power.
(Prof) Norman Geras.
Department of Government,
University of Manchester.

JOAN Rydon's comments on fish and chips are condescending (Letters, October 30). Firstly, there is an assumption that all eaters of fish and chips are unaware of the health risks. Secondly, there is the contention that 'there are more delicious ways of cooking fish.' Sorry, professor, your snobbery is showing. I think not. I too like raw tuna, and microwaved/grilled fish. But when what I really want is fish and chips, they just do not fit the bill.
Duncan Swallow.
44 Bentfield Road,
Stansted Mountfitchet,
Essex CM24 8HP.

THE suspension of constituency parties is a matter for the local Labour Party, not the local council (Blair orders clean-up of town halls, October 27). When allegations were made here about queue-jumping for housing renovation grants, I ordered an immediate investigation. The report found no evidence of impropriety or corruption in the way that the council had dealt with applications.
(Cllr) Theresa Stewart.
Leader, Birmingham City Cnl.
Birmingham B1 1BB.

The case for Eurofighter

SUSAN Willett (Priced out of the fight, October 27) contends that Eurofighter's specifications will be over 20 years old when it enters service. False! Eurofighter is an advanced, agile aircraft capable of beating the known and perceived threat well into the 21st century.

It may be the largest procurement programme ever for the Ministry of defence, but it is spread over two decades and its cost will be less than purchasing any American alternative. It is the first fighter aircraft to break the trend of ever-increasing costs and will cost the RAF less than the Tornado fleet. The benefits through exports will be a significant boost for the UK economy.

Ms Willett contends that Eurofighter is not stealthy. False! By any accepted standards, Eurofighter is stealthy with an exceptionally low radar frontal cross section. It employes stealth technology in its design radar absorbing materials.

She says that Eurofighter does not have super-cruise. False! It is capable of super-cruise. She claims the aircraft needs vectored thrust. False! It does not have vectored thrust because it is already capable of very high rates of instantaneous turn at both supersonic and subsonic speeds.

Emphasis is placed on the abilities of the Joint Strike Fighter to operate in the dark without radar, from limited runways and with adaptability to the different roles expected of air power in the 21st century. Eurofighter already has such capabilities.

Ms Willett contends that hardware is dictating the future roles of the RAF. She is right. Eurofighter is already meeting, indeed exceeding the specifications demanded by the RAF and the air forces of Germany, Italy and Spain.
John Weston.
Group Managing Director,
British Aerospace plc.
Farnborough, Hants GU14 6YU.

Pennine way

EMILY Sheffield has fallen for propaganda about rail-freight across the Pennines (Tunnel vision the Pennine way, October 28). Two-thirds of lorries on the M62 are travelling less than than 150km, and many much less: the likelihood of rail capturing that traffic is small.

The much-vaunted Humber-Mersey business accounts for a mere 240 lorries/day out of 15,600. Rail already has a large share of bulk movements, and, at the margin, it is attracting certain specialised flows through enterprising marketing and operations. But in the most optimistic scenario, I concluded that 540 lorries/day might be removed by a good railfreight service — that is about 1 per cent of total traffic.

If Railtrack really wants to spend money on the Pennine lines, let it improve the infrastructure for passenger trains.
Jonathan Tyler.
Passenger Transport Networks,
49 Stonegate, York YO1 2AW.

A Country Diary

MACHYNLLETH: Last century, when the population of Britain was a mere 20 million and there were no cars on the roads, John Stuart Mill write: "A world from which solitude is extirpated is a very poor ideal. Solitude is essential to any depth of meditation or of character. Nor is there much satisfaction in contemplating the world with every rood of land brought into cultivation, every flowery waste or natural pasture ploughed up." I thought of his words last week at the Museum of Modern Art, at the tabernacle here in Machynlleth, where there is currently an exhibition of marvellous photographs of Cader Idris by Pete Davis, which will be open until November 15. Its title is Soul Of A Lonely Place, and indeed the pictures are all of mountain solitudes. What is remarkable about Cader Idris, and Snowdon also, is that large areas of them are still genuinely lonely places because nearly everybody keeps so closely to the trails that the rest of the mountains largely retain their seclusion. If J S Mill could return today, he would surely be deeply depressed in the lowlands when he saw all the traffic on the roads and the countryside so bereft of its wildflowers, and now losing some of its best-loved birds as well. But he might be more cheerful if he got to the uplands and saw that so many of their wild places are still intact.

If he felt that way, he would be seeming only the bright side of the picture. The dark side is the horrendous overgrazing by sheep. It is true that in some special areas the number of upland sheep is being reduced. Elsewhere, however, the moorland vegetation is still under severe attack. But as I could easily fill this whole page with a diatribe against mountain sheep; I had better shut up before I get launched (or maybe even lynched).

WILLIAM CONDRY

Commonwealth of Massachusetts is guilty

Mark Lawson

JURY-FIXING used to be something the American legal authorities were desperate to prevent. Now jury-fixing is what they desparately do themselves.

The OJ Simpson jury produced an unpopular verdict and so the system contrived a second civil trial with an opposite and more generally acceptable result. The Louise Woodward jury has now come up with a verdict which embarrasses lawyers and public and so the judge must try to nobble them. The complex series of sentence-reduction submissions which Judge Hiller Zobel will hear on Tuesday are an eleventh-hour attempt to prevent the Commonwealth of Massachuetts from handing out to a 19-year-old girl — in whose actions clumsiness or bad luck seem as likely a component as malice — the kind of sentence which in Britain would be reserved for demonstrable psychopaths.

In a high-profile criminal trial these days, it is generally assumed that the defendant is not the only figure in the dock. Conventional wisdom suggests that the jury system is also up for judgment, or the cult of the expensive defence lawyer or the presence of the cameras in court or the possibility of a fair trial in a culture of incontinent publicity.

There is an obvious temptation for a commentator to hand out long and savage sentences against the American jury system. In no other legal culture has so much attention been paid to the selection of panels — through highly- paid jury consultants and complicated systems of challenges — and yet the choices always seem to end up as the dirty dozen.

Twelve Americans seem to know what to do with a Hollywood-style serial killer. But the two most publicised criminal cases of recent years — the OJ Simpson murder trial and now the Louise Woodward case — have both produced verdicts significantly out of step with general public and media readings of the evidence.

Yet it is illogical to be angry with both juries. Though much vilified, the Simpson jury can be seen to have applied with impressive pedantry the principle of "reasonable doubt" on which the legal system is based. The botched prosecution — particularly the disastrous moment when the "bloodied glove" worn by the murderer failed, for whatever reason, to fit Simpson — raised doubt.

Now the court of public opinion is furious with the Woodward jury for adopting exactly the tactic it found lacking in the Simpson jury and trusting hunches over evidential niceties. The only conclusion that can be drawn from these paradoxical controversies is that juries will almost never consider the evidence in the isolation which the law demands. The peers of OJ Simpson were perhaps dazzled by his celebrity. The (trans-Atlantic) peers of Louise Woodward possibly — being predominantly mature women — found it easier to identify with those who employ nannies than with nannies themselves.

In respect of the Eappens — parents of the child now officially found by the court to have been murdered — we should be careful that what appears to many as a serious miscarriage of justice should not lead to their being demonised in Britain. Their tragedy is a real one.

Yet the principle of the trial system is that evidence must take precedence over emotion. If the medical evidence about the presence of an old injury to the child's skull did not introduce "reasonable doubt" about the murder charge, then it is hard to see that the concept has any meaning.

In this regard, another of the secondary indictments produced by the Woodward verdict was against the American legal system's increasing indulgence of the victims. The harrowing but pointless "impact statement" made by the Eappens before sentencing — and the parents' angry appearance on a television talk show while the jury was still out — are both part of a culture of emotionalism which must surely encourage the kind of heart-over- head verdicts from juries which are proving such an embarassment to American law. One consequence of the Woodward trial has been to set back the cause of those in this country who have campaigned for "impact statements" and a relaxation on media comment during a trial.

The Massachusetts public — although now apparently widely taking Louise's side — must also share guilt in the verdict. A district attorney's desire to impress the electorate with his toughness resulted in the seriousness of the charges which the au pair originally faced. The long attempt of Boston politicians to resist public pressure for the death penalty led to the inflexible savagery of the custodial sentences of which Louise Woodward is a victim.

However, one American legal institution — the slick and expensive defence lawyer — has emerged with unexpected credit from these proceedings. The line from the defence lawyers at their press conferences has essentially been: look, we know we defend guilty people but this one is absolutely innocent.

This really didn't feel like spin. The defendant successfully took a polygraph test (excluded from the evidence) and consistently refused the plea-bargaining which is the American system's escape route for the guilty. The haunted faces of the defence counsel after the verdict really did not seem to speak of loss of ego and reduced future fee levels — the post-trial emotion we would normally associate with defeated American lawyers — but a genuine moral horror at the outcome of the case. The biggest loser is the reputation of a nation which founded itself in part in opposition to the British legal system. It is hard not to think that, if a developing country had put a British teenager through this legal ordeal, there would be talk of ending diplomatic relations. If France had done it, there would be talk of a boycott of its products. The USA's strategic status — and the marketability of its products — protects it from such consequences.

It happens that Boston has been the source of many moral sermons against the British in recent decades — because of the deep identification of politicians and populace with the Irish nationalist cause — but, after the events of Thursday, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts would be well advised to keep quiet about morality and justice for a long while.

هكذا من الاصل

هكذا من الاصل

Being late doesn't always mean we'll miss the bus

Commentary

Martin Woollacott

IS lateness in international politics a mortal sin? The view of international life as full of opportunities which, once missed, never return, and of delays for which high prices must be paid, has too much of a grip on us. Nations are seen as demoted or damaged because they made the *wrong choice* at such and such a moment. It may be the influence of the study of the century's wars, which emphasise decisive junctures. *There is* also the preoccupation, in a time of groupings and combinations, with exclusion and isolation. *In any case, it is* a view which has influenced criticisms of the British government's approach to European Monetary Union.

Yet the lesson of broad movements of change is that lateness matters less than arrival, and that those who go first often find that they need the accession of those who follow too much to charge any serious price for delay. *If the* argument for European union is that its necessity arises from the situation in which Europeans find themselves, then that situation does *not* change because a particular nation makes a particular "negative" decision. The necessity itself, like a powerful and *constantly reinforced* river, asserts and reasserts its pressure on governments and peoples, and that river must *eventually reach its sea. In* this larger picture, the Blair Government's clear commitment to monetary union this week matters far more than *the timetable. The river has* breached the British dike. That, it appears, is how Chancellor Helmut Kohl, briefed by Tony Blair only a few *weeks ago, understands it. It* is also how the pro-Europeans of the Conservative Party see it, as they seize this moment to try to create a platform for *a different kind of Tory party* in a post-EMU future.

When Germans are polled on monetary union, some 60 percent say they would prefer *to keep the national currency.* But when they are asked whether they think monetary union will nevertheless come, the proportions are reversed. *It means Germans accept that* their political and business class wants monetary union and is prepared to take the *responsibility, before the* people, for bringing it in. If "they" want it, a "they" that is trained and tasked to take decisions in the national interest, then so be it. Whenever the German opposition has attempted to tap popular feeling against the Euro and against the Kohl govern*ment's attempts at austerity,* it has come a cropper. Voters are aggrieved about these matters, but they do not see the opposition as offering a *realistic alternative policy.* Voters in France *did* switch governments, but there too, the commitment to monetary union was, after a judder or *two, essentially unshaken* by the change.

It is *the recognition* of the inevitability of monetary union because the national *élite is set on it that has so far* been missing in Britain. This is the true "lack of preparation" for Europe by the last Conservative government to which Gordon Brown *referred in his monetary* union statement.

The most important form of preparation is not technical but psychological, and the history of European association shows again and again the same pattern *which is,* first, a commitment by the *élite and, second,* the winning of some kind of assent, often reluctant, from the peoples. Britain has now entered a period in which the déterminat*ion of the government, and* most of the business class, will over time create the sense of inevitability which is the true basis of popular acceptance of monetary union in Germany and France.

It is not the only basis. In Italy and Spain, it is aspiration rather than resignation which informs pro-European popular feeling. In truth, a nationalism which wants to show it is as disciplined, democratic, and modern as northern *Europe has* been harnessed to the monetary union project. This is why the Refounded Communist Party in Italy, forcing Romano Prodi's government into resignation over the cuts in welfare it was making to qualify for monetary union, found it had miscalculated. Italians want to be *in the first European rank,* which for them has come to mean entry into monetary union from the start, more than they want to retain their welfare system unscathed. *Rebuffed by public opinion,* the Communists reversed themselves, and a strengthened Prodi government returned to office.

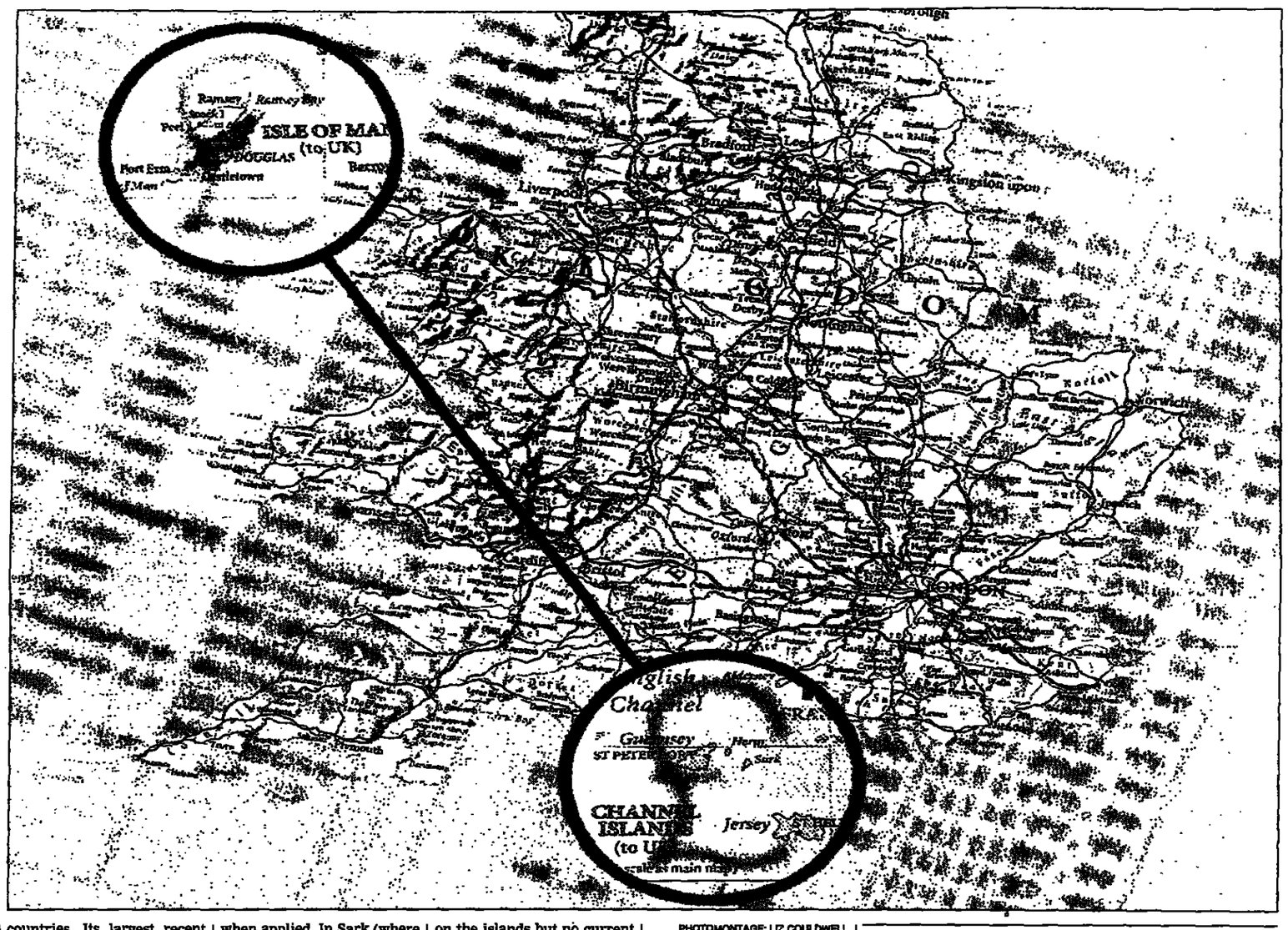
In Spain, a similar relationship with the North, allied to the Spanish *understanding of* Europe as both a guarantee of their own democracy and a source of immediate benefits, produces a similar degree of popular support. Britain, like Sweden and Denmark, is in *neither the class of resignation* nor that of aspiration, and must belong to the former before it makes the change. Of course, there is also a more selfish element in the Blair *and Brown calculations* — letting others take the plunge first — but it is secondary.

> Holding a seat for Britain at the Central Bank is a signal that it is regarded as a member in waiting rather than an outsider

Will Britain be made to pay for it? Not by the European *institutions, surely.* Chancellor Kohl thinks of bending the rules to reduce or abolish a probationary period and to hold open a seat for Britain at the top level of the European Central Bank as a signal that Britain is regarded as a member in waiting rather than an outsider. It would after all be counter-productive to put at a serious disadvantage a Britain committed and actively preparing for entry, particularly when that preparation involves a popular referendum. The French and German governments seem, in any case, to preceive a new need for a co-operative Britain in Europe, as a balance to their own bilateral relationship at the decision-making centre. *It is one which monetary* union makes more urgent, because Britain is such an important financial centre, and one which Italy and Spain do not, for a variety of reasons, at the moment provide. The reason is in part the simple one that two can find themselves in a confrontation, whereas with three leading actors there is always a tie breaker.

The problem of Europe as a popular programme is that union has been a series of strategic responses to the threats affecting the conti*nent, the threat of war from* the Soviet Union, of economic domination by American and Japanese industry, of disintegration after the Soviet collapse, and now of economic globalisation. That these threats could only be met by combination was obvious to most politicians, civil servants and soldiers, but less *obvious to the man in the* street. The result was an internationalisation of the European leadership classes, while the politics that gave them office and legitimacy remained obdurately *national. Each* country has dealt with the resulting split in attitudes, which is sometimes almost schizophrenic, in its own way. Britain's path has been particularly difficult, but there now begins a psychological convergence — much more important than the business cycle — with its partners. Against that change, a few years longer to wait may not be as critical as they now appear. All of Europe must wait, in any case, for the developments that we need to begin to close the gap *between élite co-operation* and popular feeling. Those include changes in the formal European institutions, but the hope must be that a growth *of local and regional* democracy, and of cross border trade union co-operation, will change the European political landscape, allowing *popular continental combinations* to emerge. Indeed, it may be that lateness is part of the European condition.

Islands awash with ill-gotten gains



PHOTOMONTAGE: LIZ COULDWELL

Julia Pascal detects a foul stink emanating from the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man, and calls for Government *intervention to crack down on* the offshore havens exploited by child pornographers, drug dealers and assorted fraudsters

WATERLOO. I sit in the Eurostar lounge full of businessmen, awaiting my Paris train. *Drinks and newspapers are* free. I pick up a small lami*nated* leaflet inviting me to invest in Offshore Private Banking. It promises "*specialist staff* in Guernsey to save tax" and "protect your estate" with total anonymity.

Flicking through the financial pages of the press I learn how offshore banking can "legitimately avoid tax". A healthy offshore life assur*ance guarantees* my husband a lifetime of tax-free income. There is a way of avoiding tax for parents making gifts in a child's name or for pension*ers willing to live six months* in Spain. The list of ways to legally cheat the revenue is endless. The Channel Islands and the Isle of Man are Britain's offshore *bonanzas. But* at what cost to the rest of us?

Labour vows not to raise taxes but they urgently need revenue for the health service, education and public transport. What could be *more logical than examining* the dubious way of life carried on in these islands, with their secret, feudal governments and exclusive banking laws? Labour's current windfall tax looks trifling *compared to the billions* it stands to gain in cash flowing through these islands.

We are all implicated. I notice my last Mercury bill seemed to be based at a Channel Island address: and how do I know what my high-street bank is doing with its offshore *reserves?* Defenders of the present system complain that a removal of the current tax avoidance machine will result in companies and individuals taking their money abroad. The argument is morally specious. Certainly mainland businesses will have to start paying taxes like the rest of us and the rogues who use the islands for money laundering will *certainly* move their trade. By allowing them to continue, we too are complicit in an unfair system. Why should there be one tax law on the mainland and another for offshore islands? If the Channel Islands and the Isle *of Man profit from British* defence and social security then they should be made to fall into line with the British *mainland* laws.

Nobody knows exactly how many businesses are run from the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man. As the Chancellor and the mainland taxpayer lose out, sex lines, arms deals, drugs and money laundering have all been mentioned as major profiteers in the present system.

There are even whispers that the Channel Islands were used *during the cold* war as a way of financing secret British operations. But today the islands' practice is quite at odds with Blair's vision of a fairer Britain and *it is time* they were dismantled as tax havens.

When we discuss offshore finance we are talking about very serious money and, parallel with the money deals, are deep political and moral implications.

> Questions must be asked about the right of certain British Isles to legally siphon funds from a Treasury which desperately needs funds to help build a healthier society

After the genocide in Rwanda, Mil-Tec, *a British* company, alleged to have sup*plied arms* for the massacres, was noted as being registered in the Isle of Man, with nominee directors from the Channel island of Sark.

In Douglas, capital of the Isle of Man, bank cashiers talk of customers arriving with suitcases full of cash. British and foreign *investors* hid £15 billion in Manx banks *last year. Nobody* knows where these deposits come *from,* but local cabbies report frequent whistle-stop visits by Liverpool and Dublin drug traffickers who rush from airport to bank and back again.

Jersey has 78 banks from 16 countries. Its largest recent fraud case involves the private Swiss bank Cantrade, a banker, a currency trader and an accountant. Sixty nine alleged fraud charges have *been brought and $27 million* of clients' money was lost. £200,000 was spent in PR in an effort to counter the bad publicity. There is supposed to be a regulating system, but how can regulation be possible when politicians sit on the boards of banks they are supposed to be regulating?

Money scandals cannot be divorced from the legal in*equalities currently going on* offshore. This was highlighted last year when the French engaged in a battle with Guernsey over fishing *rights. Parisian lawyer Moni*que Fauchon was at first refused the right to defend her client Jean-Pierre Leverrier in a Guernsey court. *After taking her complaint to* Brussels, Monique Fauchon was finally allowed to plead in Guernsey.

What this peculiar case reveals is that the aggrieved party (and Fauchon is not alone) has to go to plead in Brussels for the right to apply British law in a British court. *How many Guernsey people* have the know-how to take their complaint to the European courts?

Indeed, the Guernsey judicial system has often been criticised as being a law unto itself. Monsieur Leverrier was held in custody for more *than 24 hours in Guernsey* which Madame Fauchon com*plains* was "against the law" and "would be illegal in Great Britain". She also complained of the massive fines "out of all proportion with fines on the mainland". Guernsey, so used to behaving independently, *is,* however, subject to European law which *proves* embarrassing when applied. In Sark (where there is no divorce and where female members of parliament have to cover their heads) the *millionaire* press barons, the Barclay Brothers, *are challenging Sark's primo*geniture law which allows only the eldest son inheritance rights. This is certainly an extraordinary case where new money *picks a fight* against *old* money and its allegedly medieval customs.

The Isle of Man, Guernsey and Jersey have no political parties! Dissidents accuse the islands of being run by a few *masonic families who retain* power through autonomously-run banking systems, police and judiciary.

There is little new blood on *the islands. In the Channel* Islands, casual, poorly paid, usually Portuguese guest-workers are brought in for the summer tourist trade and *then encouraged to leave as* soon as possible. The Manx finance sector brings in 36 per cent of the wealth but employs only 20 per cent of the population. Here there is a two-tier system with many living hand-to-mouth in a society awash with money. In Guernsey or Jersey, house purchase restrictions make buying impossible for all except the very rich. These islands boast the facade of modern Britain while functioning under feudal law and enjoying a freebooting capitalism. *Can we allow this to* continue?

No written agreement exists between the Channel Islands and Westminster. In fact, although we mainland taxpayers foot the bills for offshore defence and social security costs the islands are self-governing UK Crown dependencies: part of Great *Britain but not part of the* UK. Constitutionally Westminster can improve any law on the islands but no current Labour directive is planned to bring them into line with mainland practice. Yet the islands leach from the Treasury and allow an unfair *banking system quite in con*tradiction with new Labour's image. How can Blair plead for more equal representation of women and minorities *at Westminster and still allow* these feudal, secret societies with their huge financial incentives for the rich to flourish on British soil?

Thanks to the islands' low profile, few mainlanders *notice the extent of these* anomalies, and the wealthy island governments certainly do not want attention from the British mainland *taxpayer.*

Stories of dirty deals abound. Jersey is said to have been implicated in Italian scandals including the Banco *Ambrosiano affair,* and more recently that involving the finances of Silvio Berlusconi. In Sark, which is run by a "Seigneur", Michael Beaumont, many householders "sell" their addresses for £100 to companies and individuals based abroad who make extraordinary profits from this shady area.

This two-mile long island is used *as* a convenient phone exchange where calls are automatically diverted to destinations in Sierra Leone, Austria, Spain, Switzerland, *California and Latvia. Bel*gians, Swedes, Dutchmen and Britons pretend to live on Sark in this way to gain zero tax rating.

Sark residents also become directors of companies of whose practices they prefer to remain ignorant. No less *than 40 per cent of Sarkese* residents are company directors. Many are selling their names as sham nominee directors to foreign-registered companies dodging taxes. One Sark citizen profits by acting as director of 2,400 companies! The real company owners *hide behind these* frontmen. "Sarking" a com*pany means* anonymity and tax-free profits. Telephone sex lines and child pornography are most often mentioned as among the activities practised but, as no checks are made, nobody can measure *the extent of this massive* underworld profit.

When stories of money laundering or arms deals surface, local assurances are immediately given, stating that such misdemeanours are minor blips in a self-regulating industry. Bad publicity might scare off future profit merchants. But the question is not one of how such blips can be avoided but whether Labour is willing to bring these peculiar money markets into line with how the rest of us are obliged to live.

We cannot separate the massive crime and drug problems of Liverpool, Glasgow, Dublin or London from the suitcases crammed with banknotes secreted anonymously offshore. Not to connect is to be short-sighted.

Tony Blair's agenda is to create a fairer Britain. Therefore questions must be asked about the moral right of certain British Isles legally to siphon funds from a Treasury which desperately needs funds to help build a healthier society. The financial and legal practices carried out on the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man are an insult to the rest of us on the mainland. If we are all equal citi*zens in New Labour's New* Britain then let us all be subject to the same legal and tax laws. They say that money has no odour but, in these offshore islands, it is beginning to stink.

This week's essayist, Julia Pascal, is a writer and theatre director. Her play about the Channel Isles, Theresa, which highlights the issue of wartime collaboration with the Nazis, is being staged at the Imperial War Museum, London from Tuesday, November 4

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Family feuders bury hatchet to turn on man given task of breathing life into ailing West End store

For whom the Liberty bell tolls

Taking Liberties . . . Stylishly dressed windows at the West End store where sales are 10 per cent up but the reduced spending power of the yen is behind the share price jitters fuelling a power struggle PHOTOGRAPH: DAVID MANSELL

Reputations

Daggers glint in Regent Street's neo-Tudor emporium, as JULIA FINCH reports

DENIS Cassidy must sometimes wonder why he bothers to get out of bed in the morning. Two years ago he took on hauling the ailing Liberty store into the modern world. He knew it wouldn't be easy, not least because the business was bogged down in the ethos and egos of its founding family.

He had to be offered the job more than once. He needed persuading by Liberty's non-executive directors. And he needed assurances he would be left to administer whatever medicine he prescribed.

The son of a bus conductor-turned-millionaire didn't need the money — £150,000 a year — and he must be wondering whether he needs the aggravation.

For the former boss of British Home Stores and the Boddington's cream of Manchester brewery faces a long battle to keep his job.

Two substantial shareholders — the founding Stewart-Liberty family and South African shareholder activist Brian Myerson, who together speak for 44 per cent of the neo-Tudor Regent Street tourist trap — have joined forces in a move to oust him.

Cassidy's advisers admit he was shocked by the development, for the two camps opposing him were until recently sworn enemies. Myerson had waged a successful two-year campaign to change the share structure of the group, giving all shareholders equal voting rights, which deprived the Stewart-Liberty clan of control.

But Cassidy won't give in without a battle. He is now working on the letter of his life to shareholders.

The letter will try to show why his strategy is right and attempt to open up old wounds between the plotters.

Liberty's story, like all family sagas, is long and complicated. Founded in 1875, Liberty is to London's West End what Harvey Nichols and Harrods are to Knightsbridge. But while Harrods has grown and prospered, Liberty has lost its way.

The store is still stunning, and stocks spectacular furnishings, jewellery and gifts alongside its famous fabrics. Shoppers range from wealthy aesthetes to tourists from around the globe. But in 1996 it recorded a £16.6 million loss.

Liberty's problems stemmed from family battles. Under the 29-year chairmanship of Arthur Stewart-Liberty, who presided over the company until 1981 and died at the beginning of this decade, the company successfully exploited its name. He built a huge and profitable wholesaling division that sold Liberty products to other retailers worldwide.

When he retired, his sons Oliver and Richard became the family force in the company. Even while their father was alive the brothers had problems working together. When he died they regularly collided. Richard, the more mercurial of the two, wanted the store to be at the cutting edge of modern design, supporting new fashion names.

He wanted the store filled with exotica and ordered buyers not to worry about budgets or whether everything they purchased might sell. He hosted huge promotional parties, known to other directors as "Richard's piss-ups".

Oliver was responsible for finding products for the wholesale division, which were all supposed to be on display. But he was cautious and traditional and if Richard didn't like Oliver's goods he wouldn't display them. Oliver also postponed plans to open airport retail outlets.

It was exactly the sort of opportunity that Brian Myerson seeks out — underperforming companies where some serious shareholder pressure can work wonders. He would change the management or the ownership and either way make a profit. He had done the same before, with Aquascutum, and walked away much wealthier.

In 1992, he bought 15 per cent of the company and immediately demanded a change in the voting structure.

Myerson and Oliver Stewart-Liberty clashed from the outset. Myerson said Liberty was "Edwardian"; Oliver Stewart-Liberty accused Myerson of being a "corporate raider".

There was a long stand-off but, under City pressure and the threat of new EU regulations, the Stewart-Liberty clan admitted defeat.

In April 1995, as Cassidy was being persuaded to join the company, the brothers were forced to resign as directors. By now their formidable stepmother and major shareholder, Elizabeth Stewart-Liberty, was referring to the directors as "the enemy" and at 1995's annual meeting Oliver warned: "We'll be back."

Cassidy, aged 64, must have harboured fears the family would return to haunt him. Before he accepted the job he asked Elizabeth Stewart-Liberty to promise they would not interfere. He got the assurance, but has without doubt tested their patience.

ALMOST a year after his appointment he suspended the dividend on Liberty's shares — and with it went vast amounts of annual income for the family shareholders — some £200,000 a year for Elizabeth alone.

She, reportedly, was mortified. Her co-plotter, Myerson, was ecstatic. The move, he said, was essential, and if it left some of the family short of cash, so much the better because they might be forced to sell some shares and he would be a willing buyer.

Cassidy took his corporate axe to the business, shutting down 20 regional stores and chopping 500 jobs.

More recently, Elizabeth was said to be horrified when Cassidy refused to open a book of condolence in Liberty's Regent Street store after the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, and insisted on opening for business in the afternoon after her funeral.

Cassidy further alienated the family when, within weeks of his arrival, he fired Richard, claiming that he had told a Japanese partner of plans to end their relationship.

Richard claimed unfair dismissal and the case, coincidentally, came before an industrial tribunal last week. The tribunal upheld his claims, but a spokesman for the family yesterday said he didn't want his old job back.

"He has no desire to be involved in running the business," he explained. "The family is happy with the rest of the board. Their beef is with Cassidy."

Their beefs are many and were put to Cassidy a week ago, when ex-banker Odile Griffith, the family's financial adviser, requested a meeting.

It wasn't an unusual request, but it was a shock when she turned up with Myerson, the family's former enemy. They had three demands — a requisition from 27 per cent shareholder Elizabeth Stewart-Liberty for an extraordinary general meeting to remove Cassidy and appoint Griffith and Myerson non-executive directors.

The family are united in opposition to Cassidy. Richard, Oliver and their sister Francesca Byng, together with their stepsister Fiona Livingstone Learmonth, all back Elizabeth's move. Their main complaint is the company's disappointing share performance. The shares stood at 250p when he was appointed and yesterday were at 352.5p, although last year they reached nearly 450p.

The plot was hatched after the company revealed it made a trading loss in the first six months of this year. A £777,000 trading profit a year earlier fell to a £137,000 loss this year as a result of £1.2 million spent on marketing and more senior managers. Liberty has also been hit by the strength of the pound against the yen, which has curbed the spending power of Japanese tourists. Sales in Regent Street, however, were ahead nearly 10 per cent.

Cassidy has grand plans to put the Liberty label in knitwear and shirts and to open more airport stores around the world. He is also considering mail order and Middle East expansion.

Richard Stewart-Liberty branded Cassidy's £40 million modernisation plans for the Regent Street store an "insult" to Liberty's image.

Cassidy is ready to stand and fight, and this week his board backed him.

Some non-family shareholders say he doesn't stand a chance. They believe he might do what he did in 1987 when he locked horns with Sir Terence Conran, after Conran's Storehouse group snapped up BHS, where he was deputy chairman — he walked out and watched the group's problems multiply.

Embattled . . . Cassidy fights on PHOTOGRAPH: E HAMILTON WEST

Helmut 'n' Tony fudge shop

IAN TRAYNOR reports from Bonn on the Kohl plan to fix Britain's role in EMU

THE politics, if not the economics, of the European single currency have suddenly moved into overdrive with Helmut Kohl's characteristically impetuous move in bending over backwards to accommodate Tony Blair's EMU dilemma.

The German chancellor's offer, made over recent days, to keep a seat warm for Britain on the policy-making board of the European Central Bank in Frankfurt, will trigger widespread resistance — and may be a non-starter.

But the wishful thinking implicit in the offer shows that Kohl really believes that Britain's EMU cup is half-full and not half-empty, that the City of London will propel the nation into the single currency, and that the German leader is keen to cement the best possible relationship with Tony Blair.

The chancellor's move is a massive gesture of goodwill towards Downing Street. But at the Bundesbank in Frankfurt, the finance ministry in Bonn, and in other EU capitals, the proposal is seen as half-baked and hugely problematic. And the offer to hold one of the ECB's seats for Britain after the euro's launch in January 1999 has not been fleshed out or thought through in Bonn.

For Kohl, whose grasp of economics is notoriously vague, the single currency has always been primarily political, the arrangements surrounding it available for the kind of political horse-trading that characterises his style of rule.

He intends to campaign loudly on the euro over the 10 months until next September's crucial German election. He would be much happier to rope "my friend Tony Blair" into his pro-euro electioneering and, following his five-hour tête-à-tête at Chequers with Mr Blair recently, it is clear the two men get along famously.

But it is hard to square Kohl's fondness for expedient politicking with objections already being heard in Germany against fudge and favours on the euro.

Only 10 days ago, the powerful Bundesbank chief, Hans Tietmeyer, aired his anxiety about the way the boardroom spoils in Frankfurt might be divvied. He hoped the European Central Bank president and other members of the board "will not be determined by national interests, but solely by their stability policy credibility".

He wants the ECB posts — that of president and up to five others — to be decided next May, the same time that, with Tony Blair in the EU chair, the initial single currency participants are selected and their exchange rates fixed.

AN UNHOLY scramble for these six eight-year posts is inevitable. Eleven into six does not go. On the assumption that EMU kicks off with 11 members, at least five countries will be left outside the inner circle. It beggars belief to imagine that they will be even more magnanimous and leave one of the seats vacant or semi-occupied pending the arrival of a Brit. Unless, that is, Germany gains one of the coveted six places and then, in a subsequent fit of generosity, turns it over to Britain.

But that, too, stretches credulity and, despite Kohl's goodwill towards the British after years of tension and mistrust with Margaret Thatcher and John Major, the recent thrust of German moves to shape how the euro regime will be run are to exclude, not include, those EU members not in the single currency at the launch.

In Münster two weeks ago, Theo Waigel, the German finance minister, gained French backing for an "informal" grouping of EMU finance ministers, modelled on the G7, which would co-ordinate and discuss policy among euro members parallel to the Frankfurt bank.

The Waigel scheme is aimed at keeping non-EMU countries out of the decision-taking, a move opposed by Gordon Brown and Robin Cook, who told the Commons last Tuesday that the 15-strong council of EU finance ministers and not Waigel's euro-zone ministers should be the forum for policy-setting parallel to the central bank.

Such battles are still being fought, and will become fiercer in the six months until the euro decisions are due. But Kohl's willingness to bend the rules could pay off elsewhere for Britain.

If, in the end, there is no empty seat being kept warm in Frankfurt, Kohl could succeed in getting Bonn and the Bundesbank to waive their insistence that Britain re-enter the exchange rate mechanism for a two-year period before being eligible for the euro.

ERM membership is seen as a "political impossibility" for Britain after the 1992 exit, while the Kohl view is that "all impediments" to Britain adopting the euro will in the end be swept away.

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Germans fail to grab equities arm

NatWest rebuffs DMG bid

Mark Milner
Deputy Financial Editor

SHARES in NatWest fell sharply yesterday after the banking group rebuffed an offer from Deutsche Morgan Grenfell to buy its equities business.

It said the "unsolicited approach" was against the interests of shareholders and employees.

Some analysts suggested NatWest's rejection could be a ploy to try to get a higher price while others argued it would leave the group to concentrate on creating a more focused investment bank.

"I don't think they're playing for more money," said Hugh Pye, an analyst with Robert Fleming Securities. However, Peter Thorne, an analyst at Paribas Capital Markets, said the announcement was a "negotiating tactic".

Neither side would disclose the terms of the offer for NatWest's securities business, which employs 1,750 people worldwide, but DMG made it clear it was not prepared to improve its bid. City speculation has suggested that the equities business could command a price of around £300 million.

DMG said yesterday that if it had been able to acquire the NatWest business that would have provided a way of accelerating its plans to become Europe's leading equities house.

But a spokesman stressed the group would continue to expand the business organically. "We will continue building the equities operation as we have been doing by hiring people."

He added that Deutsche Bank's main board in Frankfurt had fully supported its subsidiary's offer for the NatWest equities business.

There has been intense speculation about the future of the NatWest equities business in recent weeks even though NatWest has never put up the "for sale" signs.

Yesterday's rebuff of the bid from DMG — which saw NatWest shares down 43p to 857p — is unlikely to dampen the speculation, not least because of recent Wall Street mergers which have raised the stakes in the global battle for equities business.

Although NatWest stressed yesterday that DMG's approach had been unsolicited, talks between the two banks are understood to have taken place over several weeks before DMG put its terms on the table.

NatWest has invested heavily in the operation, although there are suggestions it has made little money in recent years and that this year the business is running about £100 million below budget.

A NatWest Markets spokeswoman yesterday refused to comment on the scale of any shortfall against internal targets but said that the bank had acknowledged at the time of the interim figures that the business was in an "investment phase", which meant additional costs. "The underlying business is good," she added.

Unlike NatWest, Barclays has formally put its equities business up for sale, alongside its corporate finance business, but although it is reported to have had around 20 expressions of interest it now appears to be down to a single potential bidder, Credit Suisse First Boston.

Both Bankers Trust and Paribas have said they are no longer interested, and yesterday the US investment bank Donaldson Lufkin & Jenrette was also reported to have lost interest.

Calls to the US investment bank were not returned last night while Barclays refused to comment on the number of possible bidders.

The Dutch insurance and banking group ING has been linked with both the BZW and NatWest equities businesses but said it was not interested in buying an equities business in London "for the time being".

DMG is also regarded as unlikely to turn to BZW on the rebound from the NatWest rejection.

Saturday Notebook

Bank misses a golden chance

Alex Brummer

NATWEST may think it acted in the best interests of its shareholders in rejecting an offer from Deutsche Morgan Grenfell for the equities arm of its investment banking business, but the market appears to have judged matters rather differently by marking the shares down heavily.

In many ways, DMG was the ideal candidate for the securities business at NatWest Markets. Tom Whelan, who runs the NatWest equities team, is originally a refugee from the US investment house Morgan Stanley and was thought to be anxious to link up again with other exiles at DMG.

However, DMG was only interested in the equities arm, not the corporate finance and fixed interest rate businesses, and NatWest had hoped to sell a package rather than dismembering the operation. Nevertheless, an important opportunity has been lost. NatWest securities — like much of the investment bank — has been performing below par with some reports suggesting that it is down £100 million on forecast. Moreover, the bank's chief financial officer, Richard Delbridge, is thought to have been keen on an early sale to improve the look of the accounts and overall rate of return before year end.

Ironically, that is also the reason why Barclays set about selling its equity and mergers and acquisitions arm BZW. The field of possible buyers narrowed quickly leaving CreditSuisse First Boston as the most likely buyer, filling a hole on CSFB's portfolio of businesses and also handing it an equity trading floor. Clearly, the sooner that NatWest and Barclays can clear the decks the better, at present both investment banks are shrinking brands and assets. In the case of Barclays, the sale of BZW, for a reasonable price, will also be the prelude to a more important expansion.

Tiger trap

THE arrival of the IMF at the scene of financial desolation is meant to be reassuring to global markets. But in Indonesia the reaction appears to be almost the opposite. Several factors are at work. First, confidence in the IMF/World Bank's ability to correct economic management in South-east Asia has been tarnished by the experience in Thailand, where a fragile democratic system and a banking system in which the ruling class have a strong commercial stake have been serious obstacles to reform.

In Indonesia, the political situation is very different, with President Suharto bestriding the national scene like a colossus. Nevertheless, the intertwining of political and commercial interests is similar. As part of the IMF package, the Indonesian authorities have undertaken to break up the government monopolies in key industries, including soya beans, wheat, flour and garlic — as well as cement price controls. But the IMF appears to have stopped short of an assault on the clove monopoly which is under the control of Hutomo Mandala Putra, President Suharto's younger son. Analysts in Jakarta argue that efforts to disband this monopoly would have sent a more positive signal to the global investment community.

The other cause for concern is the wisdom of making so much cash — up to $18 billion — available to the Indonesian administration. Critics of large scale IMF programmes argue that all they do is slow the process of reform: it should be a case of stick and carrot with the hard decisions taken first, and the cash coming later. It is argued that this is what happened in Poland, with remarkably successful results. The IMF does not normally release cash until it is satisfied that reform targets are being met.

But there are also larger forces at work. Fears that the volatility in the Pacific could cause further market turbulence in America, has prompted the US, as the IMF's biggest shareholder, to suggest to the IMF/World Bank that they do all they can to stabilise matters. That may be critical during the immediate crisis as the contagion spread to other emerging markets, including Brazil. But in the end it will take a sharp dose of disinflation and low or zero growth in South Asia to wipe-out the follies of the recent past.

Euro cars

MUCH of the ruling class in Europe spent yesterday puzzling over how the German Chancellor, Helmut Kohl, plans to ensure that Britain is eased into a key role on the European Central Bank, even though entry may be postponed until well after 2002. But the German Chancellor has proved before that where there is a will, there is a way — even if the formidable figure of Hans Tietmeyer, the Bundesbank President, stands in the way.

As far as big business is concerned, the end game politics of EMU are now an irrelevance — dealing with the practical problems is paramount. Among the companies coming to grips with these is the General Motors subsidiary Vauxhall, which has the second largest share of the UK car market. Suggestions from Detroit that production might be moved to continental Europe are wide of the mark, although Britain's stance may well be a factor in future investment decisions.

Vauxhall already has decided that from January 1 1999, it will be pricing its cars in euros and will be seeking to converge prices from one end of the European Union to the other.

It is still debating whether the bigger of the dual windscreen prices in the UK market will be in pounds or euros. Whichever way it goes, it is aware that it will have to adjust the sterling price regularly, to take account of movements of the pound against single the European currency. As well as educating the consumer on euro pricing, it will also turn almost every car buyer into a foreign exchange watcher in much the same way as people watch the tourist rates before they go on holiday.

This may appeal to the more speculative minded, but is certain to leave those caught by a sudden move in the exchange rate gritting their teeth and demanding the euro.

MARKETS TURMOIL/Indonesian package aims to bolster Asia – but France may be next flashpoint

Far East thrown £23bn IMF lifeline

John Aglionby in Jakarta and Nick Cumming-Bruce in Bangkok

THE International Monetary Fund sought to restore confidence to the battered markets of South-east Asia yesterday through a $23 billion credit package for Indonesia linked to economic and banking reforms.

But the three-year aid package, announced by IMF managing director Michel Camdessus in Washington and supplemented by $3 billion (£1.8 billion) from the US Treasury and other aid from countries including Singapore, immediately provoked scepticism in Indonesia and elsewhere.

In Jakarta, analysts said the only way to renew confidence in the economy and the rupiah, Indonesia's currency, would be to remove President Suharto, who has ruled for 31 years.

Fears that the price of the IMF package would be the closure of 19 banks brought a mood ranging from hope to apathy, and panic-stricken clients queued in front of branches thought to be facing the axe.

But Mr Camdessus praised an "impressive" package of reforms that Indonesia announced earlier yesterday. "These measures should restore confidence in the Indonesian economy and contribute to the stabilisation of regional financial markets," he said.

US Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin said the pledge of as much as $3 billion was in the US interest because "financial stability around the world is critical to the national security and economic interests of the United States".

The IMF package came as financial markets worldwide bounced back. In the US, the Dow Jones index stabilised after posting big early gains on economic figures showing healthy growth of 3.5 per cent and inflation at 1.4 per cent, its lowest level for 33 years, despite a spurt in retail sales.

But new fears emerged last night, notably in France, that European markets could crash next week.

Mar'ie Muhammad, Indonesia's finance minister, said the agreed measures, which include trimming the national budget, abolishing several monopolies and liquidating insolvent banks, "will obviously depress economic growth for the next two years". But he expected it to rebound to 7 per cent by 1999/2000.

The government had agreed a package of "very broad scope" that included reforming financial institutions, strengthening capital and reserve requirements, scrapping long-criticised monopolies on a number of food items, reducing subsidies on energy, freeing cement prices and removing some import tariffs.

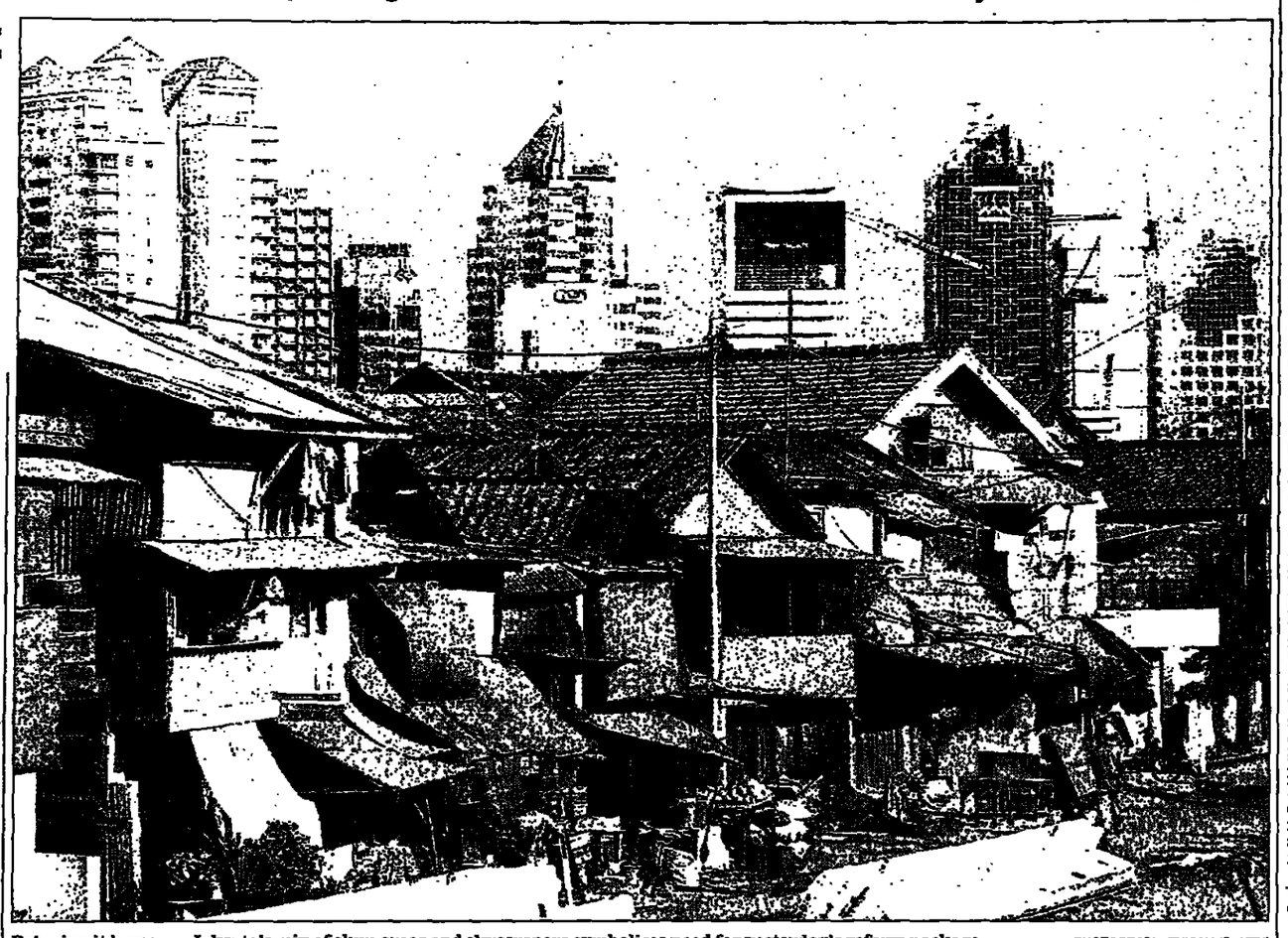
The government also agreed at least to balance the budget and has conceded what analysts say amounts to a high degree of IMF control over its spending for the next three years.

Economic analysts were not so optimistic. Laksamana Sukardi said growth would probably struggle to reach 4 per cent in the next three years and only bold moves, such as scrapping protectionist national car and aircraft projects, abolishing all monopolies and rooting out corruption, would restore confidence.

"None of these was included in the package and they are much more important than the amount of money involved. How these are tackled in the next few months will determine whether the global market will vote with its feet or its money."

Others went further. One commentator, who refused to be named, said: "The causes of this crisis have been around for years, namely corruption, cronyism and monopolies. It has just taken the currency turmoil for the real situation in Indonesia to be exposed to the rest of the world.

"The problem is with Suharto. He thinks he is a king, that the IMF is just an adviser and that he can act as he wants."



Bringing it home . . . Jakarta's mix of slum areas and skyscrapers symbolises need for yesterday's reform package PHOTOGRAPH: ENNY NURAHENI

French firm puts down marker for London Tube

Chris Barrie
Business Correspondent

ONE of France's biggest engineering and utility companies may bid for the right to run the London Underground as part of plans to expand its UK activities.

With ministers poised to decide how to inject private-sector expertise and finance into the capital's ailing Underground network, the Générale des Eaux group said yesterday it was interested in running tube trains — and improving standards of service.

Jean-Marie Messier, chairman and chief executive, said the company did not want to assume responsibility for improving the Underground's infrastructure, nor would it provide finance. But it would want to run services.

Mr Messier said the company had not been involved in talks so far. Générale des Eaux had been monitoring the Government's attitude towards privatising the Underground, however, and one possibility was to form a consortium, possibly with a merchant bank.

The French firm operates two British rail franchises, Connex South Central and Connex South Eastern, carrying 200 million people a year, 17 per cent of the passenger rail market. The firm also has construction, waste, water and telecommunications interests in Britain.

Ministers are considering a report from Price Waterhouse on how to inject more funds in to the Underground using a public/private partnership. It has been said ministers favour having two or three infrastructure companies and one or more operators of services.

Railtrack, which runs the railways infrastructure, and Virgin have also expressed interest in running parts of the Underground.

Mr Messier said Générale des Eaux would not be interested in taking on more overland rail franchises, but he described ambitious plans for expansion elsewhere.

The company holds a 30 per cent stake in publishing company Havas. Havas needed to expand outside France and soon would have net cash of £700 million for expansion.

TOURIST RATES — BANK SELLS

Australia 2.33	France 9.37	Italy 2,780	Singapore 2.59
Austria 19.74	Germany 2.80	Malta 0.627	South Africa 7.88
Belgium 57.87	Greece 446.00	Netherlands 3.15	Spain 235.25
Canada 2.29	Hong Kong 12.56	New Zealand 2.61	Sweden 12.28
Cyprus 0.832	India 80.50	Norway 11.44	Switzerland 2.28
Denmark 10.75	Ireland 1.084	Portugal 286.00	Turkey 293.330
Finland 8.50	Israel 5.91	Saudi Arabia 6.17	USA 1.637

Supplied by NatWest Bank (excluding Indian rupee and Israeli shekel)

Saatchi old boys buy top agency

Tony May

SAATCHI & Saatchi old boys Sir Tim Bell and Martin Sorrell joined forces yesterday in a deal to buy the advertising agency behind the blackcurrant Tango, Robinson's squash, Golden Wonder and Pot Noodles commercials.

Sir Tim, one of Baroness Thatcher's most trusted advisers when she was prime minister, worked at Saatchi's for 15 years and headed the UK agency before he fell out with founders Charles and Maurice Saatchi. Mr Sorrell was the finance director and known at the time as Saatchi's third man.

Sir Tim left to become chairman of the Lowe Bell public relations group while Mr Sorrell joined WPP in 1984 and built it into the world's biggest advertising group, incorporating J Walter Thompson and Ogilvy and Mather.

Yesterday WPP agreed to pay £15 million for a near 30 per cent stake in Sir Tim's master company, Chime Communications, to help it finance the acquisition of the Howell Henry Chaldecott Lury advertising agency for up to £24 million. The deal will double the size of Chime.

HHCL has grown rapidly in 10 years and now employs more than 150 people. Its activities are primarily in the UK where the main agency, trading as HHCL & Partners, accounts for about 75 per cent of the £25 million revenue in 1996, on which it made a profit of £3.9 million. It is, however, intent on expanding its business overseas.

Rupert Howell, HHCL's managing partner, is to become joint chief executive of the enlarged company with Chime's Piers Pottinger, who will also be deputy chairman. Sir Tim will continue to chair the group and WPP can appoint two non-executive directors to the board.

Sorrell, left, and Sir Tim

WPP said the investment in Chime, which has offered advice to Hanson, GEC and a string of Tory politicians, would further enhance its ability to supply integrated communication services to UK clients, providing access to skills including strategic marketing consultancy, advertising, public relations and public affairs.

Sir Tim also unveiled a rise in Chime's profit for the half year to June 30 from £1.4 million to £1.7 million, despite margins and revenue per employee being affected during the "flat" period of the General Election. He said the group's performance should improve by 1998.

Construction chief makes fast exit

Tony May

JOHN Castle resigned as chief executive of Taylor Woodrow yesterday after only four months with the construction and property group, following a clash of personalities on the board. Mr Castle, aged 50, is likely to leave with a £500,000 pay-off.

The company said he was resigning by mutual agreement as it had "become apparent in recent months that there was a fundamental incompatibility between the board and Castle". No specific strategic decision is believed to be behind Mr Castle's exit, but he was unavailable for immediate comment.

Mr Castle worked closely with Colin Parsons, the chairman said to be two years away from retirement but credited with taking the group from a £94 million loss into a £67 million profit in five difficult years.

Mr Parsons will now become chairman and chief executive, but in accordance with the Cadbury Code Sir Kit McMahon, the senior non-executive director, will be made deputy chairman.

Mr Castle's departure comes just months after it announced a strategic review aimed at integrating skills across its four divisions, cutting costs and raising profits.

Mr Castle had in particular promised to tackle the underperforming construction division, but described this as "evolution not revolution".

His exit is expected to delay completion of the construction review until the beginning of next year.

The City still expects the group to transform itself over the next 10 years into a housing and property group dabbling in construction, rather than the other way around.

● The Redland building materials group yesterday urged shareholders to reject a £2.07 billion takeover bid from French rival Lafarge, as the board was in talks with "other parties".

Redland chairman Rudolph Agnew said more than 10 other parties had shown an interest, but there was no favoured route for selling or splitting the group.

News of other buyers whetted the markets' appetite for a counterbid and the shares rose 2.4 per cent — 8p to 339p.

Analysts said Redland shares had been underperforming the FTSE index by 60 per cent in the year up to the Lafarge bid, hitting a low of 210p in September, compared with a high of 634p in January 1994.

Levitt stuck in NY on £1m bail

Financial staff

DISGRACED financier Roger Levitt was bailed yesterday by a New York court but his lawyers said: "He might as well be under house arrest."

The judge told Mr Levitt in extradition hearings that he would have to deposit £1 million, hand over his passport and remain in the south or east of New York.

Mr Levitt is wanted in Britain for allegedly misleading Department of Trade and Industry inspectors over his links with the London boxing promotion company, International Boxing Corporation.

Meanwhile, Mr Justice Ognall told the High Court yesterday that he had been "misled" by the DTI and ordered an investigation of the legality of the department's actions.

The criticism came the day after the DTI admitted to the same judge that its American lawyers had misled a New York judge when they applied to have Mr Levitt taken into custody. DTI lawyers admitted that the crime of which Mr Levitt stands accused was not "extraditable".

Yesterday counsel for the DTI, Claire Montgomery QC, told Mr Justice Ognall that the department's legal position was not quite what he thought. While agreeing there was no extraditable crime "as a matter of English law", she argued that the US "took a more liberal approach" and the New York proceedings could continue.

Mr Levitt, who has been in custody in New York since Monday of last week, is now president and chief executive of the New York-based Boxing International LLC.

The collapse of his London financial services group in December 1990 with £34 million debts brought him a sentence of 180 hours' community service after he pleaded guilty to fraudulent trading.

Mr Levitt claims the DTI's moves are "part of a vendetta" following the community service order.

NatWest rebuffs German approach, page 11

Helmut 'n' Tony's fudge shop, page 10

FinanceGuardian

Red shift in the City

PAUL MURPHY tracks the past week's nervy switchback ride on the money markets

Bouncing boys . . . Traders Ed Coleman (left) and Steve Lynch celebrate the market's rebound at Harry's bar in Hanover Square, New York, on Tuesday PHOTOGRAPH: MARK LENNIHAN

TWENTY years in the City, and Maureen Gillmurray has rarely seen anything like it. "One minute the place is alive with chatter and smiles. The next it's like a morgue. Spirits are up, spirits are down. You get a sense that most of these people don't know whether to laugh or cry. One gentleman tried to do both, and ended up choking on the bit of lemon in his gin and tonic. I thought he was on his way to stockbroker heaven."

Maureen tends the bar at a Balls Brothers outlet on Threadneedle Street — a hundred yards up the road from the Bank of England, lots of old wooden pannelling installed at the end of the last century. Many of the clientele are old and wooden, too.

The place is known to its regulars as Threadballs, and on Monday lunchtime, it was just about empty.

The scene was repeated throughout the Square Mile. In the Pavillion in Finsbury Circus, overlooking the bowling green — a wine bar where it can regularly take 20 minutes to get served — there were more staff than customers. A couple of old brokers were having a laugh in a corner. One of them had ceremoniously swapped his regular Havana for a Hamlet.

"Some of these stocks are off with the birdies. There's going to be a lot of grief. A lot of daft punters are going to feel very upset when they discover they're holding shares in businesses which don't exist. Very sore indeed."

As the broker spoke, the FTSE 100 index of the UK's top companies was showing a 100-point drop. Corporate Britain was worth £50 billion less, and it was about to get even cheaper.

Shock waves had rolled in from the East overnight. The currency crisis had finally reached Hong Kong. Speculators, aware that the Hong Kong dollar was hopelessly overvalued, were trying to sever the link between the former colony's currency and the US dollar. The Hong Kong authorities, meanwhile, were defending the link by hiking up interest rates. The economy was cracking.

In London, professional players had been waiting for something like this. Week in, week out, Brokers had been *willing* a crash, but they needed an "event," something to break sentiment.

The Footsie ended that day 130 points lower, at 4841. But throughout the City there was a sense that something big was about to happen. There was no rushing home. Brokers retired to their favourite bars, switched on their mobiles and waited for Wall Street to crack.

By 7pm, the Big Correction had finally arrived.

In New York, the Dow Jones had fallen 350 points and trading had been suspended for half an hour — one of the so-called circuit-breakers introduced after the 1987 crash to give investors and brokers time to collect their thoughts, had been triggered.

Trading resumed, and prices continued to plummet. The next circuit-breaker was at 550. It was a target: Wall Street got there in double-quick time and a decision was made to shut the market.

"That's it. End of the great bull market," declared one broker. He was checking in to the Tower Thistle hotel at the south-east corner of the City. He would have to be in work early the next morning.

Tuesday came; the Footsie fell out of bed. As trading began, 450 points had been wiped off the index.

Plans were laid for after lunch. Calls would be made to KMBZ, a radio station in Kansas City, to laugh at a man called Joseph E Granville.

Mr Granville is a radio talk-show host and self-declared financial wizard. Back in April, when the Dow Jones was sitting at 6,000, he made a prediction. By his reading, the Dow was set to soar to 10,000 by January 1998. In August, when the US share index passed Granville's halfway mark — 8000 — the Dow 10,000 Club was formed. The members booked a three-day cruise to Nassau, departing from Miami on January 16, to mark the occasion.

Well, Mr Granville's holiday plans seem to have been holed below the water line — or so the London broking community thought.

It was wrong, of course. Wall Street was about to stage a spectacular rally, with the Dow clawing back two-thirds of the previous day's loses.

Dealers in London were gobsmacked. "It's a bloody farce. The American investing public seems to have been preprogrammed to pile into the market whenever it falls. We think we are in a bear market, they think it's sun and sex forever." Cartoonists loved it: bunjee-jumping investment bankers, *etc, etc.*

In London, the stress was beginning to show. A week earlier, the new order-driven SETS trading system, where bargains in the big stocks are executed electronically, came on line in the City. Older brokers have found the new technology difficult, and on Tuesday afternoon the curses were getting ripe.

Wednesday was no less stressful. Across the world's markets prices were jumping around, seemingly at random. Alan Greenspan, chairman of America's Federal Reserve, and a man whose status within the markets stands somewhere between the Pope and God was about to speak.

His words were calming. People would look back at this week as a salutary event when a bit of realism returned to the investment community, he said. Falls in share prices might even do some good, putting off the day when interest rates would have to rise again.

Yet on Thursday, prices slumped again in Hong Kong. A new round of jitters swept the globe, infecting areas such as Latin America.

In London, there was a fresh sell-off, which took about 160 points off the Footsie at one stage. But again, the expected slump on Wall Street failed to materialise. Once more, brokers on this side of the Atlantic had been caught on the wrong foot.

Some blamed the new Stock Exchange system: "We look like a mickey-mouse market. I just cannot get a feel for what is going on. The screen just keeps flashing at me. It's a mess. I like share prices going up and down, but I can't use this bloody system. I am beginning to wonder whether my business will ever be the same again," one broker said.

Others simply booked early cabs to Park Lane, changed into their dinner jackets and headed off for the annual Alternative Investment Market awards dinner. Some 700 City types — mainly those linked to small companies — packed in and began drinking themselves to oblivion.

After a bellyful of port, the hardened players moved on.

For half a dozen tough Scots — two brokers, four investment managers — the Miranda club was just a quick cab ride away. Behind smoked glass doors, round the corner from Carnaby Street, a receptionist checks membership details, then a formally dressed elderly man shows the way downstairs.

This is perhaps the most exclusive West End clip-joint, where City "gents" come to drink champagne at £120 a pop with young women dressed in their underwear.

Apparently, quite a few of these hostesses have accounts at City brokers. They get a lot of inside information.

Whether it was the booze or Greenspan's balm, by Friday morning conditions had calmed down substantially. The Dow and the Footsie were ticking over. All in all, it felt a little too quiet. Still, there's always the prospect of renewed turbulence — nay, a full-scale twister — next week, and the week after.

There's a word for it

Bear — someone who thinks shares prices are going to fall

Blue — the colour trading screens go when prices rise

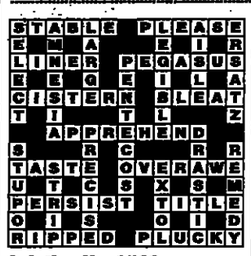
Bull — someone who expects prices to rise

Circuit-breaker — halts to trading triggered when prices fall by a set margin

Dead cat bounce — the way markets invariably recover slightly after a sharp fall

Red — the colour trading screens go when prices fall

Quick Crossword No. 8583



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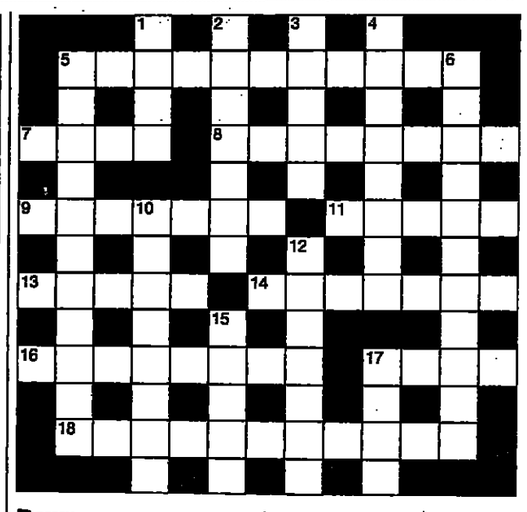

Across

5 On the surface (11)
7 Elderly (4)
8 Literary postcript (8)
9 Fascinate (7)
11 Easily carried — illumination (5)
13 Sortie — in our alley? (5)
14 Feeler (7)
16 Catastrophe (8)
17 Wise man — tucked into the turkey (4)
18 Disregard of others' welfare (11)

Down

1 Copied (4)
2 Exigency (8)
3 Inflexible (5)
4 Tobacco alkaloid (8)
5 Zodiac sign (11)
6 Nitrous oxide, a dental anaesthetic (8,3)
10 Dependable (8)
12 Lawlessness (7)
15 Sedate (5)
17 Staunch — supporter (4)

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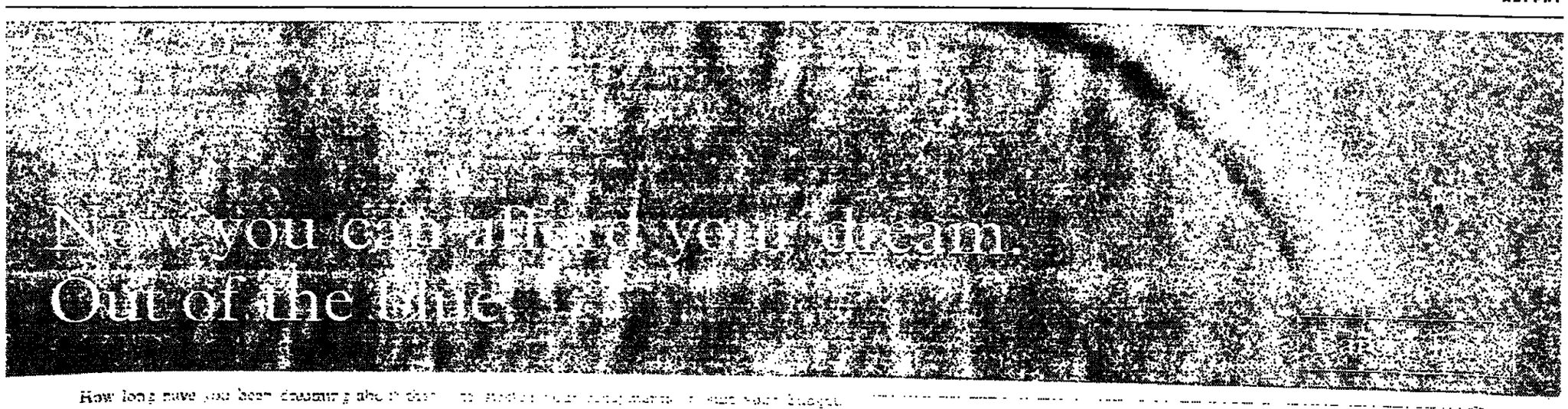

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Saturday November 1 1997

The Guardian

the week

Ireland's obscure new president wants to embrace everyone — North and South. **John Mullin** on the politics of empathy

Loving you, loving me

A quick introduction: her favourite movie is Lawrence Of Arabia; she has a fixation with shoes, particularly her yellow flowery Doc Martens; and she seems to knows who Liam Gallagher is. "Isn't he one of those lads from Oasis?" she asks.

Roy Orbison, though, is rather more to her taste; the last CD she bought was Garth Brooks's Fresh Horse, and she wants her friends to join huge ceilidhs in her new family home, an 18th century vice-regal lodge in central Dublin.

Something approaching a human face here. She admits to dyeing her hair; can never get away from talking about teeth at the dinner table (her husband is a dentist); and confesses her badminton is more about enthusiasm than talent.

Meet Mary McAleese, the eighth President of Ireland. She sounds rather good fun, for when she says she would lift the phone and call the Gardai if any of her chums slipped so much as an Ecstasy tab, she is surely joking. (Except she does repeat it.)

It is important to spell out a few details about her, for she was a virtual unknown until a few weeks ago. Even in the Republic, of which she is now the head of state.

She was unable to vote for herself, but this had nothing to do with uncharacterstic modesty. She is from Northern Ireland — the first President of Ireland from the six counties.

A mother of three, McAleese is pro-vice-chancellor at Queen's University, Belfast, the first Catholic to break through to such a senior post in that one-time citadel of Unionism. She is a director of Channel 4 too.

Fianna Fail surprised themselves at selecting her more than six weeks back. One government member confided: "She is the only candidate in the history of the presidency who needs her CV sent out to party members, let alone voters."

McAleese was known only to a handful within Fianna Fail. Others vaguely recalled her: she was the northern nationalist who had fought a parliamentary election 10 years previously, and lost. She had quit politics afterwards.

It is a long road from such a defeat to Aras an Uachtarain, the official residence, and an annual pay cheque of £112,000. She did it through machination and brass neck and still, after such a long and bitter campaign, nobody can quite be sure what they have bought.

One of her academic colleagues said yesterday "in years to come, they will be inviting students to write their doctorates on how she did it and what it all says about modern Ireland. Nobody can get it wrong, because any argument fits the facts. The truth lies in the brilliance of her campaign. There might have been controversy, but she gave so few hostages to fortune. Listen to what she said, and paint whatever theory you like onto that canvas."

At face value, Mary McAleese appears to have pleased everybody, touching all the major constituencies in the island of Ireland. To many women McAleese's victory follows seamlessly on from the Mary Robinson years, an inspiring era. Robinson, a universally respected figure in Ireland, played her hand flawlessly. In this analysis, yesterday's result is seen as another milestone in the liberation of Irish women.

Nationalists, meanwhile, would argue that her win disproves what has long seemed true: that most people in the Republic had ceased years ago to be much moved by what happens in Northern Ireland. They would point to the controversy over McAleese's alleged Sinn Fein sympathies as provoking stronger support for her at the very time her campaign looked to be most troubled.

Even the poorer people in

Mary had a little story . . . linking her to every town in Ireland. Now she is President McAleese

Ireland could take heart. Here was a woman, the eldest of nine children, brought up in working-class Belfast, winning the keys to the fancy house in Phoenix Park, Dublin. Her beginnings may have been humble, but they were no bar to becoming head of state.

So much for the herograms. But there are strong counter-arguments that suggest that Ireland, far from being as far along the road to liberalisation as the chattering classes of Dublin might believe, is still in a state of flux.

Ireland's identity has grown far more heterogenous in recent years. There is a push to modernise the agenda, but conservative forces remain. Witness the better-than-expected showing of the anti-abortion campaigner and singer, Dana.

McAleese might be similar in some ways to Mary Robinson. Indeed, her chances of selection would have otherwise been remote. Both are attractive and successful women who underwent fearsome make-overs as soon as they were selected. Both are lawyers.

But whereas Robinson was truly radical in fighting for ▶page 14

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the week that was

Henry Thompson was kidnapped by Yemeni tribesmen. **Sam Wollaston** reports on a captive's route to freedom

Hell of a time with Big Ears

Henry Thompson has a surprising way to describe being kidnapped by Yemeni tribesmen — it's like boarding school. "You've got no women, no privacy, stupid rules, lousy food, team games and it's boring."

In his first interview since being released, the British aid worker was speaking yesterday down a surprisingly clear line from the British Embassy in the capital, Sana'a. It was his first night of freedom in two-and-a-half weeks. The previous day he had been handed over by his captors to government officials amid gunfire and even a further attempt to kidnap him.

Kidnapping of foreigners is very common in Yemen — there have been 46 so far this year. Indeed, so much is it part of everyday life that the speaker of the Yemeni Parliament, Mr Abdullah Ahmar, recently said in the local English language newspaper: "It's an adventure for the tourist, because the tourist will end up learning about the custom of the tribes as well as their good hospitality."

But most people are released within 48 hours. Henry Thompson was held hostage for 18 days. He was working for the Japanese International Co-Operation Agency. He and his driver, Mohammed Rahman, were ambushed in their car on a busy road south of the capital by a bunch of men with guns and taken to the tribal village.

There was talk of Saudi involvement, but this turned out to be false. They had been kidnapped because the tribe wanted water, electricity, a clinic and a school from the government.

I had been following Henry's story with special interest, as he's my first cousin. It wasn't really a big surprise to hear that he had been kidnapped. It's just the sort of thing that would happen to him. He was constantly getting into scrapes, then out of them. Always a bit daft, he was the one who made family Christmases bearable.

He was kidnapped by disgruntled members of the Bani Dabyan tribe in the mountains of Yemen, a parched country at the end of the Arabian Peninsula. So, while his parents — my uncle and aunt — worried themselves silly in Hertfordshire, there was very little anyone here could do.

The captives weren't treated badly. Imprisoned in a house in the village, with a mattress on the floor, and plenty of food — yoghurt, oranges, goat for lunch. "Most of the time it was either boring or funny," he says. "Most days were very very quiet, stupid days. You wrote in your diary 'another day wasted'."

He was allowed to write in his diary. And he had a book, Paul Theroux's My Other Life, which he read very slowly, making little comments in the margin, rationing himself because he didn't know how long it had to last. He even took photographs. "I've got photos of baddies, and goodies and god knows what."

They had names for their captors: Mr Three Toes, Big Ears, the Idiot.

Henry Thompson . . . the life and soul of a kidnapping, or a family Christmas

On the phone he sounds very laidback, laconic even, and a little embarrassed by the whole thing.

But wasn't he worried? "It's worrying when you think about your family not knowing what's happening. That's very depressing, particularly when you're sitting there having massive giggles with a gang of Bedouin girls.

"You feel very guilty about that — somebody's worried sick about you but actually you're having a hell of a time."

And it wasn't really all massive giggles. "There were a few nasty moments," he admits. "There were different factions in the village who wanted control of me as a hostage, so there was a little power struggle going on. And it got tense a couple of times. Shouting and waving cocked guns about.

"They're obsessed with guns. They've got huge amounts of weaponry, but when you suggest that they might sell a gun to get the money to mend their broken water pump they say no way. And they kept handing me guns, jacking one round up the spout, and telling me to shoot things — rocks or tins."

The worst thing about the kidnap was the lingering uncertainty. "We had no idea what was happening but you just kind of hope. You're not sure the government is going to do anything, so you have to try to manipulate from your end.

"The story kept changing. They were very disorganised and even got us to write our own ransom notes. I refused a couple of times, said it's your bloody problem. If you can't organise your own kidnap, then why the hell should I help? But there is a sort of Yemeni-rules kidnap. You write your own ransom note, there's a big argy-bargy, then the government come and get you.'

He did write the note, which started: "The villagers of Bani Dabyan are keen that I should write to you to push the government of Yemen to negotiate my release soon. Mohammed Rahman and I are in good health but are increasingly bored and there are many internal tensions in the village. Some people are quite dangerous and wish to manipulate/control the situation in a dangerous or aggressive manner."

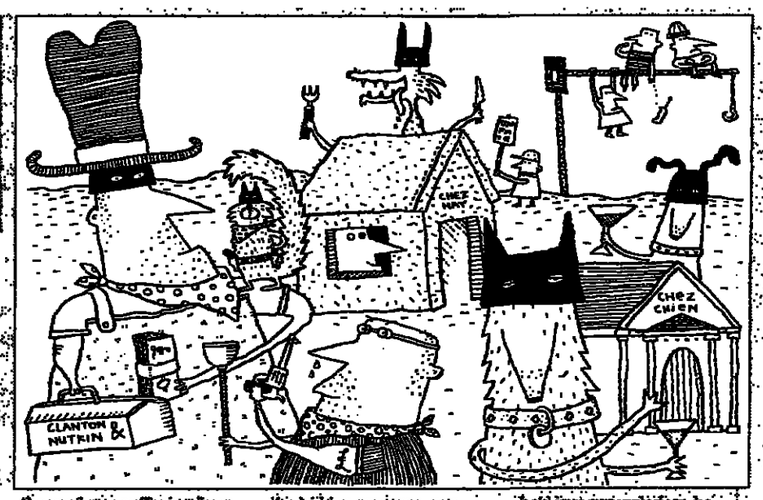
In the end the government did come and get Henry and Mohammed Rahman, in exchange for a handful of promises. "When we came out, there was some shooting — warning shots. And there was another kidnap attempt on us but by that time I was with a lot of other people and snuck off through the bushes."

Now he's out he's pretending it's all been nothing very much. He's had an embassy shower and got the smell of goat out of him ("you eat so much goat it comes out of your pores").

So what is it like to get your liberty back? "It's nice to have coffee again. And sit on a chair."

Sam Wollaston is the Guardian's music editor.

THEME OF THE WEEK: BUILDERS



A startling World in Action filmed cowboy builders in Surrey seemed to set the agenda for the week. We've had the builders in big time. The programme makers installed concealed cameras and microphones in a house in Surrey and invited a number of cowboys known to the local trading standards people to do some minor, set-up jobs — a deliberately disturbed roofing tile here, a fuse missing from a boiler there.

What followed was reminiscent of Del Boy Trotter, except a bit low on jokes. A dodgy roofing man, who surely had been a student of Monty Python's dead parrot sketch, was seen insisting the roof was suffering from squirrels. To prove the point, he descended heroically from the loft with a huge "squirrels' nest" — impressive enough, except that we had just seen him, thanks to the hidden cameras, constructing the nest from a store of straw and twigs in his van and planting it up in the rafters. As the roofer presented his £500 bill for bringing down the contrivance he'd just smuggled up, he delivered a stern warning to the householders to beware of cowboys builders.

A plumber then charged £305 for changing a blown fuse in a boiler, while another condemned the same boiler as unsafe, while leaving it switched on. Doubtless all these builders are even now preparing a legal case against Granada for invasion of their privacy.

The problem with non-cowboy builders, of course, is that they're expensive. To make matters worse, this week a lot of "proper" builders were either on strike or being struck against.

Hundreds of skilled workers joined a protest march through Westminster in central London, delivering letters to 10 Downing Street and MPs warning of plans to "de-skill" their industry. It was an unofficial action, mostly by workers on the Jubilee Line extension project in central London. But, if the walkouts continue, the strike threatens to disrupt high-profile projects across the country.

Speaking of which, the builders of the Millennium Dome were held up for 10 hours by a group of nine anti-Dome activists, who climbed a 350ft crane to protest about this "monument to corporate greed". They managed to halt the erection of the last two masts, but eventually came down because they were cold and their mobile phone had packed up.

No such problems for Peter and Jane Wright of Marshfield, Gloucestershire, who managed to overcome both planners' objections and a barrage of three-little-piggies jokes to complete England's first straw house (there is already a small straw building in Wales). The Wrights got the plans for this most eco-friendly of homes from the Internet.

Where Whitney Houston, on the other hand, obtained the idea for her newest house — or found the builders willing to suspend their disbelief and construct it — we can only guess. It's a centrally heated kennel for her terriers, Lucy and Ethel, and is an exact dog-scale replica of her New Jersey mansion. A tunnel links it to the main house, to give the hounds a choice of where to sleep. That takes some beating.

Jonathan Margolis

HAVE YOU BEEN PAYING ATTENTION?

1 Where would you shop for a clearer conscience?

2 What might you soon be popping in your shopping trolley at the check-out?
a) white loo paper
c) a clearer conscience
a) a government white paper
d) Clearasil

3 Why was it the end of a Fiennes romance?

4 Why is it the end of the line for Ron in Rio?

5 What does the Queen want her Christmas speech to be this year?
a) live
b) sung
c) interesting
d) scrapped

6 Who is this Old Spice?

7 How did David Bowie become top of the pops?

8 "I don't, it's on at the wrong time." Which Windsor to which Windsor on what?

9 What made Cherie merry?

10 Who wasn't amused by Clive Anderson's Jibe Talking?

11 Why is this new spice?

12 Who's going to have admirable sleeping quarters this Christmas?

13 How may the homeless be getting a job on a plate?

14 Who is bobbing out of Downing Street for the last time?

15 "My cock is small, is small." Who's in confessional mood?
a) Tiny Rowland
b) Mohamed Al Fayed
c) Dennis Pennis
d) Joe Cocker

Gabrielle Morris

Answers, bottom left of this page

Correction

Due to an editing error in last week's issue of The Week, we inadvertently attributed to Lady Sarah Moon the quote "I wanted to make a terrible mess like he'd made of me". These are not Lady Moon's words and we apologise for the mistake.

Loving you, loving me

◀page 13 women's rights, McAleese is vehemently opposed to abortion. As far as feminism is concerned, that tends to mitigate the onward-march-of-women argument.

As for arguments on nationalism, it is too simplistic to say the Sinn Fein controversy proves anything much about how people in the Republic feel about a united Ireland. There were other forces at work, arguably much more important, as illustrated by the recent spate of leaks that were clearly designed to derail McAleese's election campaign.

Three confidential Department of Foreign Affairs memos found their way to the Sunday newspapers. They published two one week and the third the following week. The first week's revelations emanated from conversations McAleese had with a friend — an official in the department, presuming the conversation to be confidential. In them, McAleese was reported as being delighted at Sinn Fein's performance in the British general election. She was also keen that the SDLP and Sinn Fein enter a political pact at a time when there was no ceasefire.

McAleese's nationalism — she says she is an SDLP supporter — had been rumbling in the background until then. She had spoken years earlier of understanding why young men joined the IRA. Her own family, apparently, was forced to flee its home in the Ardoyne, a nationalist area of Belfast, when loyalist gunmen raked it with machine-gun fire.

But still the issue failed to ignite, even though Gerry Adams, inexplicably, entered the fray, saying she would get his vote.

The third memo was published the following Sunday. Brid Rodgers, a key figure in the SDLP, quoted in conversation with the same official, suspected McAleese of "pushing a Sinn Fein agenda." But the attempt to fling mud at McAleese backfired: her campaign only benefited from the energy it gained.

John Bruton, Fine Gael leader, seemed to portray McAleese as some sort of IRA sympathiser. That effort backfired too, and voters told pollsters they thought he had handled the affair abysmally. Fianna Fail support firmed up and the undecided swung McAleese's way. So not so much a vote for a united Ireland, then, more a vote for the party candidate in times of trouble.

What of poor folk taking heart from McAleese's victory? Perhaps they have, but that is to miss the point. For, while hardly swathed in money, her family was probably much more middle than working class.

McAleese is the candidate of the party which has now supplied seven of Ireland's presidents; and she is a key, often conservative, figure in the Catholic Church. Put that way, her success seems to be a victory for Irish reaction. Others view it more positively, seeing it as the coming together of an old and new Ireland.

There is another abiding feature of this campaign: the hatred of the Dublin media for McAlees. It is true some of them grumble about the airs and graces Mary Robinson adopted, but this dislike of the new President is of seismic proportions. The fall-out from that will hound her throughout her term in office.

Newspaper and television people, it must be conceded, often predict the outcome of elections wrongly. Thus, the Dublin media thought Dana was a joke, yet she performed brilliantly. And they believed McAleese was there to make up the numbers when fighting for the nomination with Albert Reynolds, the former Taoiseach. They failed to realise the extent of her lobbying, or the depth of the feeling among electors in favour of Anyone But Albert.

They also thought the Sinn Fein controversy would damage her. It did the opposite.

But, to a man and woman, the media detests McAleese. They see her as cold, arrogant, a careerist, or, in one memorable phrase, a me feinner. (Old work colleagues often say similar things.)

It is a two-way street. McAleese, once a journalist at RTE, the republic's television station, seems to believe her ex-colleagues are lazy pigeon-holers always harping on about her old statements (many of them uncomfortable). She says she hates people who are patronising, yet for much of her campaign that was the approach she adopted towards the Irish media.

But, with the punters, a different picture emerges. She has a story linking her to every town she visits; a tale which indicates empathy with every group she addresses; and a happy handshake when her arms must be going limp. Journalists see the voters as gullible. She regards that as pathetic cynicism.

Mary McAleese goes into a job which has two constitutional functions. One is to refer contentious legislation to the Supreme Court; the other is formally to dissolve Parliament.

The presidential powers have so far been mainly theoretical, but they could become significant.

McAleese has talked about "embracing" everybody. Mary Robinson was pretty good on vacuous talk, too. Her engagements, and there were thousands of them, usually involved the less fortunate in society; she wore an Aids ribbon, somehow a powerful statement, particularly in Ireland; and she shook Gerry Adams's hand before the IRA ceasefire. She successfully presented an image of a more secular, caring, forward-looking Ireland.

Perhaps that was an easier job for a radical in 1990. Divorce was then illegal, giving advice on where to get an abortion outside Ireland was against the law, and homosexuality a criminal offence. All that has changed, and Robinson captured that mood.

There are those who suggest McAleese is *parti pris*. That might matter little when Fianna Fail is in government. But if John Bruton were to sweep back to power, some pundits think she is of such a character that she would find it impossible to desist from meddling in matters which would hardly be part of the job description.

Her campaign slogan was Building Bridges, yet she spent so much time burning them. To achieve the admiration that her predecessor did, she will have to start making it a reality. No longer must her watchwords be those screamed by Peter O'Toole as he ventured into battle in her favourite movie: "Take no prisoners."

New President, New Ireland... er, not quite. While Mary McAleese is a woman — and still on the funky side of 40 — no one is pretending she will match Mary Robinson, whose presidency chimed with a cultural revolution and a seemingly never-ending economic boom. Tony Blair may press his "Young Country" promo videos on any passing potentate, but Ireland is the only truly young country in Europe, with half the population under 26. There's wealth too in Dublin, as this Trinity College garden party shows (above). The city now draws more 18-to-30 weekenders than any other European city after Amsterdam. True, U2's days as the biggest band on earth are numbered, but teen sensation Ash (above left), northerners like McAleese, could yet inherit their mantle. Even the film industry, which seemed to stall after Roddy Doyle's The Van (left) and Michael Collins, is on the up again, with a crop of movies pending from Neil Jordan, Neil Sheridan and Conor McPherson.

Quiz answers

1) Tesco. According to Christian Aid, it leads other supermarkets in having adopted fair trade policies.
2) c — A government white paper outlining Britain's overseas aid effort is to be distributed by several leading supermarket chains.
3) Ralph Fiennes was divorced by his wife actress Alex Kingston this week. He left her for actress Francesca Annis.
4) The Home Office has asked for the extradition of Ronnie Biggs, 32 years a fugitive in Brazil.
5) a — Rather than the traditional pre-recorded message, the Queen wants to broadcast her speech live "to reach out to the nation".
6) Vera Lynn, who joined forces with the Spice Girls to launch the Poppy Day Appeal.
7) He has been found to be the richest British pop star, worth more than £500 million.
8) The Queen replying to actress Barbara Windsor's question on whether she watched EastEnders.
9) Cherie Blair seemed highly amused by the all-too-revealing fashions displayed on the catwalk at the Commonwealth conference.
10) The Bee Gees, who stormed off stage during an interview after Clive teased them about their previous band name, Les Tosseurs.
11) Old Spice is launching a new fragrance to be named Old Spice Whitewater.
12) The homeless are to be temporarily housed in Admiralty Arch — the Grade 1 building near the Mall.
13) Some of London's top restaurants are to join a new scheme, "Opportunity on a Plate", which will hire the homeless as trainee chefs.
14) Bob Jordan, the Keeper of the Door at Number 10, who retired after a decade's service opening the door to visitors.
15) b — Mohamed Al Fayed. His intimate view of his own prowess was revealed in a tape recording played in Parliament by Neil Hamilton.

How Do You Rate?

How you rate
0-4 Small
5-9 Medium
10-14 Large
15 Elephantine

هكذا من الاصل

هكذا من الاصل

Interview: Critics hope that the other Tony in Cherie Blair's life could be New Labour's loose cannon. **Decca Aitkenhead** meets the colourful Tony Booth six months after he became father-in-law to the Prime Minister

So what do you think of the party so far?

Tony Booth ... 'I said, God, the Prime Minister's ringing me. Then I said oh Tony, it's *you*' PHOTOGRAPH: DON McPHEE

WE'VE not yet started lunch when the Guardian's photographer leans across the table and says: "A colleague of mine remembers seeing you in a play in Swindon back in 1971."

Tony Booth is delighted, and roars off into an anecdote — what a fantastic play it was! A brilliant writer! But there was this horrible critic, he says, frowning, from the local paper, who gave it a damning review and ruined the writer's career. The photographer shifts in his seat, and says he'll have to ask his colleague if that was him.

"If he was the critic," cackles Booth, "I'm still looking for him!"

Before dessert has come, a waitress appears with a telephone message. Booth rips it open, hoots wildly and thrusts it over. "Sorry about the review," it reads. "Give me a call. Ex-critic, Swindon Evening Advertiser." Booth is extravagantly charmed.

"Well," he gasps between more bellows of laughter. "That's quick. You have a lot of influence, kid. I'm impressed."

It is a generous and quite meaningless compliment. And as he dabs his eyes, and pours a glass of water, we are thinking something else — that for an ex-alcoholic sixties sitcom star already past his greatest fame by 1971, playing Swindon in front of a scathing local hack, he sure has a lot of influence these days.

Tony Booth is 66 years old, lives in a cottage in the foothills of the Pennines and should at best be one of those nostalgic figures who pop up occasionally on daytime T, to tickle the memories of sentimental pensioners, and perhaps plug a minor play. A household name as the Scouse Git of Till Death Us Do Part, he romped his way through an irrepressible decade of affairs, fatherhood, feisty militancy, tabloid dazzle and fantastic drinking, descending into numbed alcoholism.

Just as notoriety looked like lurching into sad oblivion, late one night in 1979 he managed to set himself on fire, effectively falling into a home-made paraffin bomb in a drunken muddle. He suffered 42 per cent burns, thought he was going to die, and has not touched a drink since.

So the eighties were quieter, though he still managed to marry two more women — one the Coronation Street star, Pat Phoenix, on her death bed — and father three more daughters, making seven in total. His capacity to excite even the mildest censorious interest of the Daily Mail should be fading now — were it not for the fact that, six months ago today, he became the father-in-law of the Prime Minister.

There is something undeniably funny about this, and every time I say the phrase, he falls about laughing. It is a source of some amazement to those who remember his wildest moments, and of much sweaty-palmed excitement in Fleet Street. He is the right wing press's great hope — an old Labour firebrand dangling beyond the clammy grip of Mandelson, embarrassingly close to the Blairs and yet bound to say something scandalous sooner or later. It can only, they drool, be a matter of time.

You can see why they're so excited. When he arrives, he bounds into the restaurant in Manchester, all smiles, with the gusty laugh and artless warmth of a man unaccustomed to self-restraint. He flirts joyfully, dancing from actor luvvie ("Oh my *dear!*") to roguish lad ("Get drunk, and tell them I made you stay overnight!"), and invokes his former self of the sixties and seventies with glee.

He has none of the dulled quality of the reformed drinker, but sparkles like a teenager who is assured that he will always be liked; it is hard to imagine him being disappointed.

There are lots of good-humoured references to drink, and a mischievous delight in his past: "Sometimes I hear versions of things and I go, my God, was I really like that? But then, other times I wish I *was* like that. I think, what a hell of a story!" No one could be more eager to present Tony Booth as an enduring loose cannon than the man himself.

"The other weekend the phone rang, and it said, this is Number 10 Downing Street, the Prime Minister would like to speak to you. I said, God, the Prime Minister's ringing *me?* Then of course it was Tony, and I said, 'Oh Tony, it's *you*. Yes of course I know you're the Prime Minister — it just still sounds so odd.'

"But the first thing you think when 10 Downing Street is ringing you up, you think — my God, what have I said? Is it a capital offence?" And he laughs so much, and so scurrilously, I am seduced into the Fleet Street dream that he might very well say something over lunch which would make Downing Street cross.

SO, HOW does this old Labour man feel about his son-in-law's first six months as Prime Minister?

"Well." He pauses, thinks and smiles. "'He would say this, wouldn't he?' Tony is an exceptional guy who was destined to do exceptional things. To bring a fair form of justice and a just and fair society. He's genuine. He's upfront. The things he has done have been fantastic. Windfall tax — amazing. Amazing! People don't understand — it's an amazing thing they've done with it. Then there's Northern Ireland, education, a bill of rights.

"The beautiful thing that happened on May 1 was that hope came back into people's lives. That was the great achievement — hope for justice and peace and prosperity came out of that hope. It's just brilliant."

Somewhat confusingly, I now appear to be having lunch with Alastair Campbell. Would Booth say, then, that his politics have changed?

"I think everything has changed — opinions, views, political situations. If it doesn't change, it decays. It would just crumble. Everything must change." Well, does he hope that Blair will make changes to the trade union laws passed in the last 20 years?

"I really don't understand that question. I don't think that Labour's relationship with the unions, or any groups, has changed that radically. We have in government a party that's committed to listening to people and opinions. It's a new party, in that the concept is not just an isolated group of people, but one that embraces the spectrum, and that's a fantastic achievement. That's a great thing."

But didn't he speak out on behalf of the sacked dock workers in Liverpool not so long ago? His son-in-law has been deafeningly silent on the subject.

"What happened," he answers carefully, "is that the *cast* of a play I was in in Liverpool had a night off, so the *cast* organised a benefit for the *families*." He smiles benignly. "It was a beautiful thing for the *families*."

Fleet Street has got a long wait on its hands if it is expecting an old Labour outburst from Mr Booth. He has the manner of a maverick, but the discipline of Mandelson and the relentless optimism of a Californian on Prozac. No, it's not remotely difficult to watch one's daughter grow more famous than oneself — the first time a stranger asked if he was Cherie Booth's father was "just a great moment". He talks about politics with Tony and Cherie, but not too much. He's not at all bothered about his grandchildren growing up in Downing Street; there were initial worries, obviously, but it's turned out splendidly.

"That's because their mother and father, although they lead an extraordinary life, lead an ordinary life at home. I've rung up and mother is making dinner, Tony's trying to stop the kids doing something or other. It's still an ordinary life."

'But we are all related to the Government. And the Government is related to us'

It must, I smile, at the very least seem a little odd to find yourself at the age of 66, related to the Government.

"But we are all related to the Government," he tells me. "And the Government is related to us."

THE OBVIOUS conclusion to draw is that Tony Booth has been exhaustively drilled. He is certainly deft at dodging difficult areas, and his elaborate digressions are always engaging enough to appear innocent. When I suggest he must be conscious of Fleet Street waiting to pounce on an off-message glimmer, he lunges off into a joke about his Labour Party membership card; when we mention his militant, table-thumping reputation, he is off into an account of how he never sits near the table at meetings, so he couldn't possibly thump one, which is funny, and canny, but not quite the point.

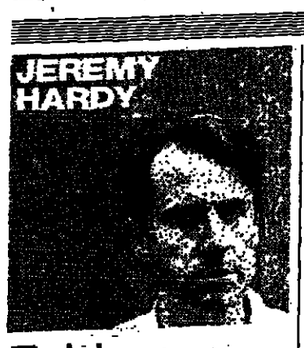
But as the afternoon passes, this explanation grows less convincing. It is, for example, not entirely clear that he was ever as far out on the Left as people like to suggest; he made his union name in Equity, a genteel outfit in which the most mild-mannered man might look quite militant.

And Tony Booth is not a politician, after all, but an actor; something we tend to forget in our fascination with his family. He is working on a series about the sea, and a history of the working classes, to be called Revolting People. He lives with an academic (she is taking a master's in gender politics — an irony he is appealingly swift to point out) and her two sons; her name comes up with touching frequency, and with an air of gentle wonder at his good fortune. The most striking feature of Booth is a completely winning naivety — a sentimental charm in the marvels of the world, which fits comfortably with New Labour's optimism. The impression he gives of a Blairite convert is not a front at all. And his passion for his family is sincere, affecting and deeply protective.

He cuts a less improbable figure as the Prime Minister's father-in-law than might be imagined. From working-class origins, his capacity to change has been formidable — a heyday in the sixties, a turbulent seventies, crisis in 1979, reinvention in the eighties, and now, suddenly, getting up in the morning and looking round his breakfast table at all that power.

He is, you realise, rather like the Labour Party.

JEREMY HARDY



Evidence that was buried for decades

One thing that can be said about Louise Woodward's murder trial is that British people are much more vigilant about foreign courts than they are about our own. Those who draw attention to mistakes made by British courts run the risk of appearing to believe that everyone in prison is innocent. This is because of the quite extraordinary number of people in our prisons who *are* innocent. For some onlookers, it seems implausible that policemen and prosecutors could put away so many people wrongly.

If you don't observe that there are patterns of behaviour in this life, most things must seem to involve a remarkable degree of coincidence. You must witness for the hundredth time police questioning a black motorist, and think, "Blimey, what are the chances of that when they're only 3 per cent of the population?" You must think that it's the most rotten luck that so many people who get involved in crime also happened to grow up in care. And you must hear the chimes of Big Ben and think, "Regular as clockwork. You could set your watch by that thing."

This is not to say that it is part of police training to wilfully fit up innocent people. But it seems to happen in many professions that the training loses sight of the fact that the jobs involve interaction with human beings. This results in the rudeness of Post Office counter staff, the insensitivity of consultant physicians, the patronising superiority of social workers and the tendency among police officers to want to get as much of the population as possible into prison with the greatest possible haste.

Of course, this is not always easy. Hence the fact that the public is always being asked to assist. Every criminal investigation begins with an unpromising press conference, at which a detective appeals: "This man knows who he is, and it's in his own best interests to contact us, so that he can be helped ... with free accommodation and regular meals." Given that it is no mean feat to find the guilty, there will always be a temptation to find the innocent instead, especially as the guilty are often tough criminal types and the innocent are probably less daunting.

Sometimes when speaking of a person as innocent, one is questioned as to how innocent they are; that is, whether they are merely innocent of the charge, or whether they are untainted by all worldly things. It may be old-fashioned, but it is my belief that, even if someone has been a villain, they should not go down for something they didn't do.

I don't know very much about the life of Frank Johnson, except that he has spent 21 years of it in prison for murder. I also know that he has other convictions for robbery, theft and violence against the person. But all I really need to know about his murder conviction is that evidence which would have acquitted him has been concealed for 22 years.

On February 3 1975, Johnson's friend and employer, Jack Sheridan, was watching television in the back of his newspaper shop in Stepney, east London. A man entered the shop. When Sheridan returned to the counter, petrol was thrown at him and a match was struck. He died three weeks later in hospital.

> I don't know very much about the life of Frank Johnson, except that he has spent 21 years of it in prison for murder

As recently as February 1995, the Home Office insisted in a letter to Chris Mullin MP that Sheridan had been unable to make a statement to the police. That statement has now turned up. In it, Sheridan insists that Johnson was not involved in the attack. He confirms Johnson's version of events, including the facts that Johnson was watching television with him immediately before the attack and that it was Johnson who put out the flames.

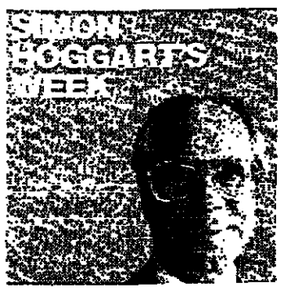
The Crown's case was that Johnson entered the shop from the front and led the attack, as part of a conspiracy with David Smart, who threw the petrol, and a third man, Jack Tierney, who waited outside. Johnson was alleged to have instructed the other two. All three were convicted of murder although Tierney and Smart have both been released.

It was the statements of Tierney and Smart that incriminated him. Tierney, a one-time police informer, was known in prison as Bulletproof Jack, and once pulled a cell door off its hinges with his bare hands. He told police he was "terrified" of five-feet-nothing Frank Johnson.

It is not clear why Sheridan was attacked. The initial police suggestion of an IRA protection racket was quickly dropped. The motive presented at trial was robbery. If Johnson had wanted to rob the old man, he had ample opportunity to do so without violence and without splitting the proceeds with anyone else.

Johnson told police that Tierney, whom he had met in prison, and Smart, an ex-soldier whom he knew only slightly, had tried and failed to enlist his help in robbing the shop. Curiously, this evidence was cited by the judge, Mr Justice Thesiger, when he declined to rule the statements of Tierney and Smart inadmissible. Even though Johnson stated that he had refused to take part, the judge ruled that the conversation implicated him.

The case against Johnson has always been ropy; and now we have the words of the victim exonerating him. I assume that he will join the slow procession of wrongly convicted people out of prison. I have never met him and I don't know whether he is a nice man or not. But I am fairly certain that he's not a murderer.



Spotting the collapse of society from the number 12 bus

STUCK on a Number 12 bus the other day, I glanced round at the advertising posters on the upper deck. In the old days these would have been about cigarettes or driving schools or secretarial placement services. Now they seem to describe a society which is falling to bits. Gosh, it was depressing.

One told you what to do if you found a suspect package. The one opposite took up the theme: "Terrorism — help us defeat it!" A placard on the left warned that a video surveillance system was operating on the bus because London Transport employees have the right to be protected from the public. The fourth asked you not to eat or drink on the bus, pointlessly, since some people seem to get on with three-course meals in polystyrene boxes.

One warned about pickpockets, and another said that if you knew about or had suspicions of children being abused, you should immediately ring the NSPCC hotline. A seventh described the terrible punishments visited on fare-dodgers.

Is our country really so afflicted, or are we just much more neurotic than we used to be? I don't know, but it was a relief as we turned into Whitehall to notice an ad for wine gums: "Hoots mon, they're juicy!" It was almost cheering.

WHY are they called Virgin Trains? Because they won't go all the way.

A FEW weeks ago I flew down from Edinburgh seated next to a 17-year-old girl who was on the first leg of a trip to Pennsylvania; she was to be au pair to three small children whose parents were doctors. She was a bright, lively young woman, starting her gap year before going to university. I wonder how her parents are feeling now.

I wish the coverage of the case hadn't made it appear like a competition between the US and a plucky little Briton. After all, the Eappens now face their own life sentence, for as anyone who has lost a young child will tell you, your life is effectively over the moment it happens.

On the other hand, their ferocious desire to pin the whole blame on Louise must be connected with their guilt at having left a tiny child day after day, all day, with an inexperienced teenager about whom they already had doubts. In effect, the jury — operating an upmarket, Massachusetts version of frontier justice — has told them: "That's all right, it's not your fault, how could you know she was a cold-blooded murderer?"

But she obviously isn't, and it is their fault as well. There's already a backlash in the States against working mothers, as Mrs Eappen has found from her plentiful hate mail. Why were the Eappens so greedy that they both had to be working at highly-paid jobs while their baby was raised by a stranger? This is not a sexist thing: there's no reason at all why the father shouldn't have been the carer, or why they couldn't split the work between them. For their failure to work through this problem a perhaps careless, possibly quick-tempered young woman has had her life destroyed as well.

Mr Hamilton's fingers quivered. I wouldn't wish this fate on anyone, even the Hamiltons

IN the continuing argument about Myra Hindley, who definitely did murder several children, it's sometimes forgotten that she and Brady kept a tape of their torture and murder of 10-year-old Lesley Ann Downey. The sound of this child screaming in terror and pain, begging for her mother, pleading for mercy, cut through the court at Chester. There is a whole generation of newspaper reporters who sometimes still wake up in the middle of the night hearing it. They constitute a kind of national folk memory bank, and I doubt if many of them are campaigning for Hindley's release.

HAVE you noticed the "yes ... no" verbal tic? "Amazing weather we've been having!" "Yes ... no, we've been in the park every day." Or, "is the new job going all right?" "Yes ... no, I'm very pleased ..." It's got nothing to do with a positive or negative response. "Wasn't that film awful?" "Yes ... no, we actually walked out half-way through." I suppose it's just another conversational airlock, designed to buy the speaker a second of thinking time, like "Well I..." I've no idea how it started, but when you get your ear in, you'll hear everyone saying it.

MY fellow columnist Jeremy Hardy said last week of Neil Hamilton: "You can see that man lives in hell". I understood what he meant as I sat next to Hamilton at the press conference this week when he played the Mohamed Al Fayed tapes, the ones about the size of his John Thomas. (By the way, I haven't yet read Michael Cole's explanation of all this; he has fallen uncharacterisically silent on the topic. Perhaps I could help: "Contrary to these scandalous accusations, Mr Al Fayed has a todger which would bring a blush to the cheek of American porn star Long Dong Silver...")

Throughout the press conference, Mr Hamilton's fingers were quivering, so that he was barely able to turn the pages of the Downey Report.

The leaves were beginning to fall out from overuse, and every page was covered with scrawled notes in the margins plus innumerable markings in colour-coded fluorescent pens. We journalists get lots of letters from people whose lives are devoted to their obsessional pursuit of conceived injustice, and they are pitiful. I wouldn't wish this fate on anyone, even the Hamiltons.

Punching their weight... the few bouts of female boxing that have taken place in this country have been mired in controversy

A fight they can't duck

HEAD TO HEAD

Last night two teenage girls boxed in a public bout. Fair play, says the fight's sponsor, **Kerry Parnell**. Foul, says promoter **Frank Maloney**

Dear Frank,

I'M SURE you were shocked and horrified like most of the male population by the boxing match in Wales yesterday, the first legal amateur fight between 16-year-old girls. Fancy, two pretty little teenagers bashing away their good looks and, oh goodness, punching their *breasts*.

But ask any teenage girl what she thinks and she'll say, "If they want to do it, let them." The fact is, this is legal and neither girl has sustained any serious injuries recently in a boxing ring. One claims she has had more accidents falling off her horse than any time she's been in the ring.

These girls love boxing, they want to box, they have been sparring for years, so why should we say it's wrong?

That is why Bliss, the magazine I edit, sponsored the fight, because we write for teenage girls who don't see any of the traditional barriers to being a young female in the nineties. So if they want to be boxers, great, just as if they want to go to the Moon, we'll sponsor a teenage astronaut!

The girls wore adequate head guards and body shields, so no, they won't get seriously hurt in their chests. But then, if you're worried about injuries, why on earth do you support male boxing? Aren't you worried about Lennox's tackle too? Hmm?

Plus the rounds were only 90 seconds long, and with only three rounds in the match, it's a fairly tame physical fight by anybody's standards. This was simply a fight for the right for young girls to box. It's a point of principle. You're either against all boxing, or you're for anyone fighting, whatever sex, whatever age. It's as simple as that.

Yours sincerely,
Kerry Parnell,
Editor, Bliss magazine

Dear Kerry,

After what I have witnessed in amateur and professional boxing, nothing can shock me — horrify me, yes! What I cannot understand is why teenage girls want to get involved in something as brutal as boxing, and, even more to the point, why their parents encourage them to do so.

Just to clarify one point, though I earn my living through boxing I would not try to defend the sport to those who are against it. The only thing I would say is that as far as young men are concerned it has to be freedom of choice. I know that you will immediately argue that women should have the same freedom of choice but the fact is that biologically women are different, and their bodies run more serious risks of being damaged compared to young men.

You do not have to take my word on this. Dr Ray Monsell is the Welsh Area Boxing Council's doctor, and he warned last week that women boxers run far greater risks because of things like breast tissue and menstrual cycles. He also admitted that medical experts do not know what lasting damage young girls can suffer, so why take the risk at all?

Is a matter of principle worth more than a young girl's health? You obviously do not understand anything about boxing because two people hitting each other with the intent to knock each other out or hurt each other is not a tame sport in any form, unless I have missed the point of boxing.

I have two daughters and a lovely wife and no way would I ever encourage or want to see them in a boxing ring!

Yours sincerely,
Frank Maloney
Boxing promoter and manager of Lennox Lewis, current WBC heavyweight world champion

Dear Frank,

I'M GLAD you have two daughters and a lovely wife — I'm sure you can see at first hand just what women are all about. They're not *that* biologically different to men, apart from the obvious bits, and they have exactly the same motivations and ambitions as men.

Dr Monsell's argument that medical science can't measure the long-term damage is flawed — medical science can't measure anything long-term until it is long term. I'm sure researchers are at this moment measuring the long-term damage to male boxers.

I know nothing about boxing, granted. But I presumed that it was about two people bashing each other's brains out. So of course there will be damage. I don't pretend to care whether those brains are male or female. If that's what they want to do, and that's what is deemed a sport, then fair enough.

One thing worried me. You say that though you earn your living through boxing, you wouldn't defend it. That's a bit weak, isn't it? I earn my living through teenage magazines, and I'd be the first to defend them, just as I'd be the first to fight for teenage rights — as I am doing here.

Believe it or not, teenage girls participate in many dangerous sports — they're playing rugby, cricket, football, skateboarding. They say even synchronised swimming could be deadly if you don't wear a nose clip. So it's not surprising that now they're boxing.

Yours sincerely,
Kerry

Dear Kerry,

I CANNOT imagine what sort of person you are: I will not even try to imagine! Your comment "I don't care whether the brains are male or female" concerns me. Maybe you are not in your true vocation, you sound more suited to be editor of a seedy domination magazine rather than that of a publication for teenage girls. I can only say that I do not want to have any association with a person like you after this debate.

Trading punches... Kerry Parnell and Frank Maloney

Even in young boys' amateur boxing there is a movement to raise the starting age from 11 to 15 to try to eliminate risks to a young, growing body. If guided correctly, most of these boys spend a long time training in the gym before they are even allowed to set foot in a boxing ring. Girls/women have only been allowed to enter a boxing gym to train since October 1996. One of the problems, which I have witnessed at first hand, is matching two novices of the same standard; at present there is no way that women's standards can be judged. Far more should have been known about women's boxing before yesterday's bout was even allowed to take place.

I think that it is irresponsible of your magazine to support something you know so little about. You have obviously done this to jump on the bandwagon as a cheap publicity stunt.

Yours sincerely,
Frank

Dear Frank,

THANK you for your career advice. I hadn't considered working on a dominatrix magazine before, but I know you'll have given that area some thorough research, being such a splendid columnist for the Sport. That side of women's lib I'll leave firmly to you. And don't worry, unless I do get my whips and chains out in the near future, I doubt I'd ever cross your slippery path anyway.

As for the suggestion that Bliss is irresponsible and just trying to get on the bandwagon of women's boxing, I was very interested to hear that your company was to back a female boxing match with Jane Couch at Wembley next month. Hypocrisy? Surely not...

Bliss was supporting the principle of the fight, not the actual point of physical violence. As I have said all along, I believe teenage girls should have the freedom to do whatever they want, especially when there is an equivalent law for teenage boys. If that law subsequently changes, then I'm sure female fighting will be amended too. But I'll leave that to the experts, not the promoters.

Yours sincerely,
Kerry

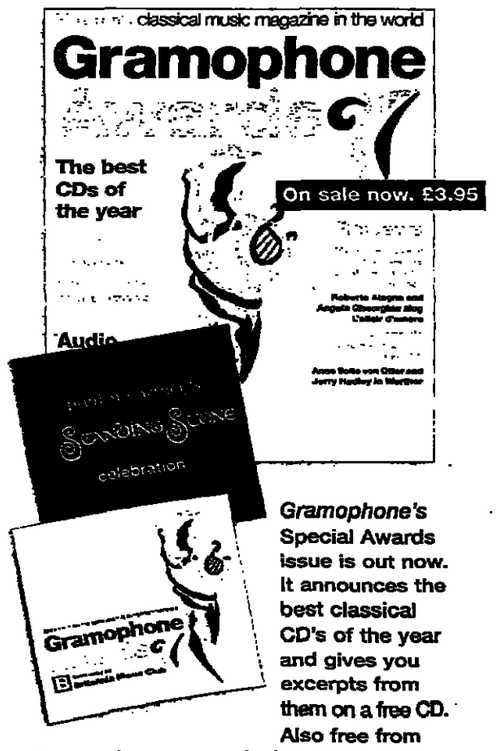
Dear Kerry,

IT SEEMS to me you have finally lost the plot, though I am glad to see you enjoy reading my column every Tuesday in the Sport. I still stand by what I said from the start — that there could be lasting damage when girls of this age fight. I am not a hypocrite: my company may want to promote Jane Crouch but personally I am against it and have refused to support her application for a licence to box in Britain. I have also informed my company that I will not take part in any press conference to promote her.

I cannot understand how your magazine can support a fight and then dismiss the violence. How can you have one without the other? Maybe you are sponsoring the ringcard girls! Boxing is a physical and violent sport; there is no other way to describe it.

Yours sincerely,
Frank

If you only buy one music magazine, make it this one

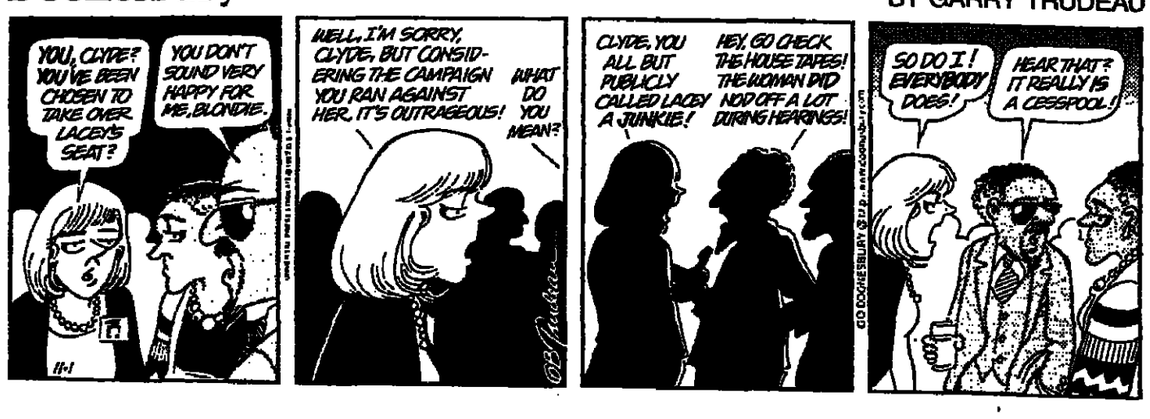


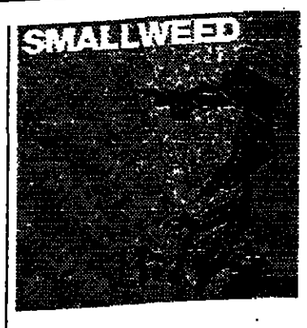
Gramophone's Special Awards issue is out now. It announces the best classical CD's of the year and gives you excerpts from them on a free CD. Also free from *Gramophone*, an exclusive excerpt from Paul McCartney's "Standing Stone."

Award yourself a copy now.

Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU





AN ANCIENT miasma dissolved yesterday as Smallweed at last came face to face with the meaning of champerty. This concept has been elusive for many years. Sometimes I took it to be a word invented by Edward Lear ("and the Dongle doffed his champerty hat"); at others, I thought I remembered that Champerty was a village some 14 miles south-west of Paris where Manet once painted.

There have also been days when, spurred by a sudden conviction that I had grasped its meaning at last, I marched to the bar of some affable country pub and loudly demanded: "A glass of your very best Champerty, pray, mine host!" — only to be met with a scowl and a growl of "You what?"

All illusion. As J Melville Williams QC explained in yesterday's Guardian, champerty means the sharing of the fruits of litigation, or in an earlier definition, wanton and officious interference in the disputes of others by someone who has neither justification nor excuse for getting involved. Indeed, the Times declared earlier this year that the "criminal act of champerty" was once considered "the foulest practice known to the law" — fouller, we must suppose, than murder, rape or unnatural sexual practices.

Oddly it ceased to be a tort 30 years ago. I dare say there have been champerty parties in all the best inns of court this summer to mark that anniversary. But Smallweed was not invited.

The behaviour of those indulging in champerty, as Melville Williams also explained, was considered "champertous". One guilty of champerty, I've discovered, was dubbed a champertor, as in "thou art a common maintainer of suits, and a champertor, and I will have thee throwne over the Bar next Terme." (1688). I am not quite sure what this means, but 1688 was, as you know, a particularly turbulent year.

IN ALL the clever comparisons drawn this week between the future King Charles III of Great Britain and King Mswati III of Swaziland the most instructive was largely ignored. This is that under the constitution of Swaziland, the king shares power with his mother (or if he's lacking a mother, with his senior wife). I wonder if Charles will now recommend to the in-house royal think-tank which considers the monarchy's future that this practice be copied here?

The Queen shows no sign of abdicating, and if present trends continue Charles could be sitting round till goodness knows when to get his share of the action. A job-share monarchy, exercised by mother and son, would lift the load from the Queen and give her son his overdue chance. (Court correspondents please copy.)

AND NOW for a world exclusive. Smallweed is happy to state that a rescue for the beleaguered Royal Opera House is now under way. Building on the crowd-pulling success of the fly-on-the-wall TV series about the institution, The House, a group of supporters from literature, the arts, showbiz and politics are getting together to stage a blockbusting new opera to which most will be giving their services free. Provisionally titled "Il Giardino di Coventi" it will tell the epic tale of the house's struggles before and since it arrived at the Labatt's Apollo, Hammersmith.

The music is to be written by the heroes of the Diana memorial service, John Tavener and Elton John; Martin Amis and E Annie Proulx will handle the libretto. Among tentative castings so far:

Mary Allen, chief executive of the Garden — Jessye Norman. *Genista McIntosh, her deposed predecessor* — Julia Roberts. *Lord Chadlington, the ROH chairman* — Jose Carreras. *Vivienne Duffield, a rich patron* — Felicity Lott. *Lord Sainsbury, ditto* — Placido Domingo. *Gerald Kaufman, chairman of the Commons Culture, Media and Sport select committee* — Luciano Pavarotti. *Other members of the committee* — the Spice Girls. *Luciano Pavarotti* — Gordon Brown. *Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart* — John Prescott. *Felix Mendelssohn* — Peter Mandelson. *Franz Lehar* — Tony Blehar. Sets by Rachel Whiteread; the entire production mounted by the Millennium Dome Experience committee.

SEVERAL of the numbers from *Il Giardino* you'll be whistling by next June. I am also assured, are directly based on exchanges in Thursday's session of the Commons committee. In his role as Kaufman, Pavarotti will perform the aria *"Penso che il La Fondazione per i Beni Culturali sarebbe noccuiole di offrirvi una lira di più"* ("I think the Arts Council would be nuts to give you an extra penny").

Lott/Duffield will attempt the tricky recitative: *"Non capisco affatto come nessun istituzione può sopravvivere da questo chieder l'elemosina"* ("I don't see how any institution can survive on passing round the begging bowl"), while the plangent: "I was asked to leave immediately by Lord Chadlington" (*"Il Lord Chadlington mi ha mandato via in fretta e furia"*) will be movingly rendered by Roberts/McIntosh.

The orchestra of South-West German state railways will be conducted, other engagements permitting, by Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

Smallweed's advice: book now to avoid disappointment.

هكذا من الاصل

هكذا من الاصل

Louise Woodward's trial has prompted criticism about America's legal system. But, says **Anthony Julius**, we should be clear about what we are attacking

Not liking the verdict doesn't make it bad justice

THERE are two things that most people think they know about criminal justice. The first is that most trials end in miscarriages of justice — either wrongful acquittals or wrongful convictions. The second is that American trials are farcical perversions of proper court procedure. Criminal justice is criminal injustice; *American* criminal justice is a laughable contradiction.

The common view in this country is that defendants in the United States only stand a chance of acquittal if they pay their way out of trouble, bamboozling juries with their expensive lawyers' obfuscating courtroom tricks. Otherwise, they risk conviction by an alliance of negligence, attention-seeking judges, lazy juries, overzealous prosecutors, corrupt witnesses, and a predatory media ready to condemn before the evidence has been heard.

To propose that trials do *not* invariably end in miscarriages of justice, and that the American criminal justice system is broadly effective and mostly fair in its results, is so counter-intuitive as to be provocative. Yet this happens to be the truth. And the Louise Woodward case, by all accounts, proves it. She was, I believe, fairly tried and fairly convicted. The jury did a responsible job and reached a *responsible verdict*.

Yet the jurors, having delivered that verdict, were barely out of the courtroom when the cries of miscarriage of justice began. In this country they stemmed from a scepticism about criminal justice and a chauvinism about the inferiority of American legal institutions to our own. While the scepticism is not undeserved, the chauvinism is entirely inappropriate.

What is a *miscarriage of justice*? In the most exacting sense, a miscarriage of justice occurs every time an innocent defendant is convicted or a guilty defendant walks free. By such a standard, there are many thousands of miscarriages every year. This is because no legal system, however benignly efficient, can be entirely free of the consequences of human error. More importantly, it's because all trials involve the reconstruction of past events, and so the truth of those events can be only imperfectly glimpsed. This means, however, that the justice of acquittals and convictions must be gauged in terms of the probable, not the certain.

Provided that the defendant is given the opportunity to present his case, that all the evidence is heard, and that the jury reaches its verdict based on that evidence (rather than prejudice or incomprehension), there is no miscarriage of justice *even if the verdict is wrong*. To maintain otherwise is to insist upon an impossibly high standard of justice while also undermining the function of the jury in all criminal justice systems in which it plays a part. We need juries; we should be very cautious about attacking their findings.

There is no reason to suppose that the verdict in this case was a miscarriage. The judge has been criticised for "grandstanding", that is, for attention-seeking behaviour. But there is no real evidence of this. Furthermore, his adjudications during the trial seem to have been fair.

The parents have been criticised for giving a television interview, while the jury was still deliberating, affirming their belief in the defendant's guilt. This may not have been a very good idea, but it is hard to understand how it could have prejudiced the defendant, even if the jurors saw the interview (which they may not have). Having heard the evidence during the trial itself, the jury could not have been in any doubt about Sunnil and Deborah Eappen's belief in

Courtroom gambler: Barry Scheck, Woodward's lawyer

Louise Woodward's responsibility for the death of their son.

The jury have been criticised for ignoring the medical evidence adduced by the defence in support of their alternative theory of the cause of Matthew Eappen's death. But that is exactly what juries do — make discriminations between experts, favouring some, rejecting others. There were, apparently, two doctorate-level graduates on the jury and we have no reason to suppose that the jury as a whole felt unable to reach a decision (which had to be unanimous) because of any confusion about the quality of the expert witnesses' testimony.

There has also been adverse comment about the absence of an alternative, and lower, charge to the count of murder of which the defendant was convicted. But that was the result of the defence lawyer, Barry Scheck's, judgment that the jury's willingness to convict his client would be in inverse proportion to the gravity of the charge she was facing.

It was a gamble which he lost and it may well be that Woodward is paying the price. But this does not make the result a miscarriage of justice. Nor does it amount to the most emphatic declaration of faith in the defendant's innocence to argue that she should have faced lesser charges.

So where does all this leave the reputation of the American criminal justice system? Intact, I think; indeed possibly even enhanced.

The attacks on the fairness of the trial by British newspapers have been entirely predictable. Some commentators have been quick to condemn American justice as a "shambles." And the case against the televising of trials has been made yet again, as if there was anything about the outcome of the trial which would have been different had the cameras been absent. It may be a tasteless intrusion into the grief of Matthew's parents to broadcast their reactions to the witnesses' evidence, but viewers would have seen no more than the jury and many others in the courtroom itself. The trial was not a private event.

It's quite true that there are significant differences between the ways in which people facing criminal charges are tried in England and the United States. In America, many trial judges and prosecutors are elected, a fact which (so it's often said) makes them more susceptible to public opinion in particular cases, influencing their judgment and thereby compromising them. The greater freedom enjoyed by the media to comment on cases while they are being prepared and during the trials themselves can affect how defendants are regarded by juries.

But while these criticisms cannot be dismissed, there is no evidence to suppose any are relevant to the Woodward case.

There are often quite technical differences in trial procedure between England and a number of the American states which can have major consequences for defendants, such as the fact that an American trial judge does not sum up the evidence at the end of the trial. But given the many prejudiced summings-up made by English judges over the decades, we cannot just *assume* that the absence of a summing-up by Judge Zobel deprived the jury of the means to reach a proper verdict.

The similarities between the English and American criminal justice systems far exceed their differences. Both systems are adversarial; both are presided over by a judge who must be impartial. In each, juries are empowered to reach verdicts. These common-law rights indicate the shared origins of the two legal systems.

The Woodward case has been a calamity for all those involved in it. For Matthew Eappen, of course, and his parents. For Louise's parents, and for Louise, who — were it not for her lawyer's gamble and (perhaps) her own evidence — might more justly have been convicted of a lesser offence. But we should not allow this calamity to prompt a condemnation of the American trial system. That verdict would indeed be a miscarriage of justice.

Anthony Julius is a senior partner with Mishcon de Reya, and an author and critic

Major Eric Joyce is out of step with the Army he loves. Will it sack him or give him his own journal of dissent? He talked to **Andy Beckett** about his rearguard action

An officer and a Fabian

Are young people recruited in night-clubs the answer to the Army's problems? Eric Joyce, left, thinks not

PHOTOGRAPHS: TIM OCKENDEN and CHRISTOPHER JONES (left)

At the gates of the Army Training and Recruitment Agency in Wiltshire, one daily visitor makes the guard smile. It is cold up here on the edge of Salisbury Plain, and this former RAF station is an hour from a supermarket, but when Major Eric Joyce drives in — in his Rover, with his hero's jaw and his sunglasses — a frisson runs through the Upavon gatehouse.

On Wednesday, Major Joyce made a curt soldier's joke as he pulled up, and the guard laughed. With the hangars behind them stark in the cold sun, and the hazy Plain rolling away beyond, it might have been a moment from Top Gun. Except that, what Joyce said was: "I'll just smash through the gates, then." He is not quite an ordinary officer.

In fact, for all his two decades' service and his fond military jargon, Major Joyce is the army's leading — perhaps only — public dissident. In August, he published a pamphlet for the Fabian Society called Arms And The Man — Renewing the armed services. It began with a jolting revelation: "At present, the Army is 15,000 short of the 46,000 young people it needs to carry out its tasks."

From that spread an alarming polemic. Morale was "ruinous", senior officers acted like "pit-owners", management of troops was "patronising and naive". Behind these weaknesses stood "Victorian assumptions about people and society", in particular "racism, sexism, and class obsession". Such a culture was increasingly unsuited to either modern military actions or constructive dealings with wider society.

Since August, Major Joyce's own dealings with his employers have been, perhaps understandably, on the fraught side. First, he was removed from his post as a staff officer; then he was packed off to Winchester, 30 miles down the road, to do a six-month "study" in an office on his own.

He kept talking to the press. He wrote articles, first for the Guardian, then for the Daily Mail. He went on Newsnight and Richard And Judy. In response, the army threatened disciplinary action, dismissal, even a court martial. Major Joyce kept talking.

He is determined. Unlike most of his fellow officers, Joyce, who is 37, went to a comprehensive and joined as a private. Besides opening up the service to let many more ascend as he has done, his main demand is that all soldiers should be permitted a voice. This week, there have been hints that this may be allowed.

Joyce has received a letter from the deputy Chief of Staff, accepting that he may run an independent army journal, as long as it is not "contentious". Ministry of Defence spokesmen have said that he might not be punished for his outbursts so far if he "toes the line" — in other words stops speaking to journalists.

But Major Joyce is not quite ready to behave. On Wednesday, as he eased his Rover past the stares and towards his rented army house, he had already granted this newspaper what looks likely to be his last interview. "Rearguard actions are a big theme for the army," he began. "We've forgotten that we could do anything else." He smiled knowingly: "It's because we've sat on the German border for 40 years expecting to fight one."

We sat in his living room. Like the rest of the house, it was bright but bare: furniture against the walls, a few pictures hung quickly above, the lawn uncut outside the windows. Major Joyce and his wife, who teaches, and their cat, who likes to wander, were moved here soon after his pamphlet came out. There is no cat-flap.

Joyce sat forward, bobbing a foot up and down. He was on leave today: from the neck down, in his polo-neck and chinos, he looked more like a dressed-down manager than a soldier. He spoke, though, with the calm mischief of a long-term rebel. "Other people knew I was writing the pamphlet," he said. "I knew the army wouldn't ignore it, that there'd be media interest ... but this has been better than I expected."

But what about being punished? He carried straight on: "I thought there was a serious possibility I'd be court-martialled ... Now I think they're shying away. They're moving towards the idea of an administrative discharge [a forced "resignation]." Would he challenge that? "I'd go to an industrial tribunal without hesitation, and the European Court, if I thought it was a practical thing to do."

Across the room, there was a stack of books beneath the television. On top was The Trial, by Franz Kafka; underneath sat Che Guevara's Motorcycle Diaries and a Salman Rushdie. Major Joyce was perhaps enjoying his status.

"The great majority of soldiers I meet are supportive," he said. "Actually, walking round camp is a bit of a pain, people come up to me and say, 'How's it going?', and I can't get anywhere."

His office upstairs was piling up with sympathetic letters. "I'm not saying anything that other officers haven't. They have gone off and done degrees, and written army theses that have been shoved in the bottom drawer. Now, people say to me, 'I wrote this in 1988', and send it over."

Like many rebels, Major Joyce is fond of what he challenges. "I feel really strongly about the Army. I'm extremely proud about being an officer." He was rolling his "r"s more fiercely now: "But I'm extremely pissed off that we're decaying."

He joined up in 1978, left after three years to do a degree in philosophy and religious studies at Stirling University, then rejoined in 1987 and rose fast. Critics cite this career as evidence against him: the blunt lad with "crap exams" from school and "strong ideological leanings" leftwards, has done quite nicely in the institution he calls "reactionary". The maverick, they argue, has been tolerated far further here than he would have been at IBM or ICI.

Tacitly, Joyce recognises this, and is grateful. When the BBC asked him for an interview on the same day that his department was being publicly relaunched, he refused to go on television until late evening.

"My life in the services has been pleasant," he admits, as the afternoon warms his Rover outside. Yet his success and widening experience has made him critical: "I've become more and more aware of changes outside the army. The Berlin Wall came down, but it wasn't affecting the raison d'être or the living conditions of soldiers."

Posted to Northern Ireland a few years ago, Major Joyce began reading "quite a lot". Not Penthouse or airport novels, but think-tank pamphlets, history books by Eric Hobsbawm, novels like All Quiet On The Western Front. His 12,000 words for the Fabians, it becomes clear, were neither a sudden gesture nor the end of his thoughts.

Sitting in his quarter, as helicopters throbbed overhead, Joyce talked about "the military-industrial complex" and how the purchasing of equipment drove defence policy. He cited the house and barracks as symbols of a run-down military: a Japanese company owned the former, the Army had had to borrow the latter from the RAF. He laughed when he said the phrase "benefits of Trident".

And his criticisms do seem persuasive. Currently, newspapers are noisy with apparent flaws and uncertainties in the military: sex bias and sexual harassment; bullying and race-baiting; soldiers who are brutal to civilians. Budgets are too small. Officers' houses are too big. A beleaguered struggle continues against the acceptance of homosexuals.

And all the while, the point of the army blurs. The usual enemies have receded. Gulf War veterans endure diseases inflicted, and disguised, by their own side. The Government needs savings.

Over the autumn, the Army has been reacting. Soldiers are being sent to recruit in pubs and night-clubs. Last week, the service said it would canvas the homeless too. Two weeks ago, a serious-sounding campaign began in order to attract black soldiers. There are good, pacey advertisements on television.

Major Joyce is impressed by some of this. He warns that the army may be softening its language more than its workings. But then there is the service's olive branch to him: that journal. He already has articles ready, by anonymous contributors. Labour and Liberal Democrat MPs are lobbying the Ministry of Defence to make the compromise work.

There and in the defence think-tanks, and the army itself, opinions about Joyce are, in private, somewhat sympathetic. At the Labour Party conference, after all, Tony Blair spoke critically about the lack of black officers. It is agreed that there are not enough recruits, even — reluctantly — that the existence of gay soldiers will have to be admitted and accepted.

By speaking out so loud and long, though, Major Joyce has not made too many high-ranking friends. "He makes some good points, but he's being incredibly crass," says one well-positioned brigadier at the MoD. Joyce, it is argued, is being disloyal, is damaging reforms already underway, and is too junior to comment in the first place.

Compromise or not, Major Joyce knows he probably won't be a soldier in a year's time. Walking into the Commons with Martin Bell, as he did last Tuesday, is not really right for a serving officer. Such friends are far away from Salisbury Plain. Instead, Joyce has "other options" in the world outside. Under his television, there are quite a few books about politics.

arts

Jacket by Donna Karan. Blouse by Givenchy. Nail varnish by Chanel. Director ... who cares?

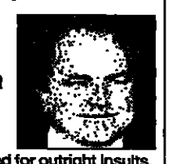
Fashion went to the movies — and took them over. By **Sally Weale**

SHOOTING STARS

Rising: Jacob Casselden

Up ... 'I have always wanted to be on the stage,' says profoundly deaf Jacob, aged 10. 'I also want to be a policeman and play in goal for Newcastle United.'
Up ... Jacob's acting career takes off with roles in Pride And Prejudice and Casualty.
And away ... Able to feel the music through his feet and confident of never missing a cue, Jacob's now been picked to play the deaf, dumb and blind kid in the blockbusting rock opera Tommy.

Falling: Clive Anderson



Going ... Famed for outright insults, devious wit and general smugness, the chat-show blabbermouth films an interview with the Bee Gees.
Going ... In fine, offensive form, he refers to one of the band's early names, Les Tosseurs. The Bee Gees, he says, will always be tossers to him.
Gone ... Barry Gibb and chums take umbrage. 'If anyone's a tosser round here, it's you, pal,' Gibb announces, before storming off.

There is a scene at the beginning of John Woo's spectacular new film Face/Off in which Nicolas Cage strides down a runway. His eyes are covered in designer shades, his long black frock coat is blowing in the breeze. His boots gleam and the wind flicks around the elegant hemline of his jacket. We haven't quite worked out who he is. We don't know where he's going. We don't know what he's done. The clothes, however, are *definitely* Donna Karan.

Hollywood and the world of fashion have long enjoyed a close and mutually beneficial relationship. There have been films about fashion; films featuring fashion; designers who dress film stars; models who become actors; actors who date models. It is a love affair with endless permutations.

But in recent years, the nature of the relationship has changed, or at least the balance has shifted. Increasingly, films are being used to showcase designers — the latest of these is Face/Off, due for general release next week. We might not know who directed the film, we probably aren't interested in who wrote the script, but we sure as hell know who designed the clothes.

More than that, designers — now Hello!-style celebrities in their own right — are fast becoming the stars of film. Luc Besson's recent sci-fi movie The Fifth Element may have featured Bruce Willis and Gary Oldman in leading roles, but the real star of the show was Jean-Paul Gaultier. He designed the costumes, gave all the publicity interviews, and was in more demand at Cannes than Ewan McGregor and Cameron Diaz combined. In short, it was Gaultier who sold the film.

This developing relationship between cinema and haute couture is examined in a new book by film lecturer Stella Bruzzi called Undressing Cinema. In it Bruzzi outlines the "elaborate and fragmented" history of couture's involvement with cinema. The interaction was there from the start, but the massive potential for commercial exploitation is only now being realised.

The earliest films where couture played a part, dating back to the first decade of the century, were straightforward, cinematic fashion shows. Then in 1931 Sam Goldwyn offered Coco Chanel a million-dollar contract to design for MGM. He wanted the glamour of a designer name, but the relationship came to a premature end after less than a year following reports of disagreements between Chanel and Gloria Swanson, whom she dressed in Tonight Or Never. It was a rocky start, but the relationship between Hollywood and the couture industry blossomed nevertheless.

From almost the beginning, cinema had a strong influence on contemporary fashions. Edith Head's strapless party dress for Elizabeth Taylor in A Place In The Sun (1951) was copied across the world; Clark Gable's bare-chested look in It Happened One Night (1934) resulted in a 30 per cent drop in American sales of men's vests. More recently, Uma Thurman's dark crimson talons in Pulp Fiction caused a run on Chanel's Vamp nail varnish and Agnès b fitted white shirts. See the movie, buy the outfit.

After Chanel's exit, Hubert de Givenchy moved into Hollywood, dressing Audrey Hepburn both on and off screen, in films like Sabrina (1954) and Funny Face (1957). "The collaboration heralded a new relationship between stars and clothes," says Bruzzi. From that point on, the use of a couturier on a film becomes "closely aligned with a desire to bequeath to the clothes the kind of star status usually denied to costume. Film fashions no longer had to remain subservient to narrative and character, and could become more intrusive, a legacy which ... finds its surest modern expression in the spectacular, innovative costumes of Jean-Paul Gaultier."

Stars and bras ... clockwise from top left: Nicolas Cage is dressed to kill in this fetching frock coat by Donna Karan (Face/Off); Uma Thurman looks good enough to eat in Agnès b shirt and Chanel nail varnish (Pulp Fiction); Audrey Hepburn puts her best foot forward in Givenchy evening wear (Breakfast At Tiffany's); and Diane Keaton is all winsome charm in Ralph Lauren (Annie Hall). Below, Alien models sweet little rubber outfit from Gaultier (The Fifth Element)

Between the Givenchy-Hepburn partnership and Gaultier's outrageous 23rd-century creations for The Fifth Element (he also worked on Peter Greenaway's 1989 film The Cook, The Thief, His Wife And Her Lover, and Almodovar's Kika in 1993) there have been many collaborations between film and fashion. Among the most significant is Armani's role in American Gigolo (1980), starring Richard Gere, which marked the return of fashion to the forefront of Hollywood. Then there were Ralph Lauren's designs for Diane Keaton in Annie Hall (disguised to look as though she'd raided her dead father's wardrobe); Lauren's clothes for Robert Redford in The Great Gatsby; Armani's work on The Untouchables (he dressed everyone except Robert De Niro, who insisted on having the same tailor that Al Capone used in the thirties); Yves Saint Laurent's designs in Belle De Jour and Nino Cerruti's in Pretty Woman. (Cerruti is among the most prolific, having contributed clothes to 39 films.)

This collaboration worked to everyone's advantage. It was cheap: designers often loaned their clothes free of charge in exchange for a credit (and still do). The film usually looked better as a result, even if the clothes weren't strictly authentic (Sean Connery's cardigans as Malone in The Untouchables were very eighties Armani leisure-wear). And the designers enjoyed a credit (sometimes) and a smattering of subtle publicity.

But it's not subtle any more. Donna Karan contributes four or five outfits to a movie, and suddenly it's a marketing tool. In the UK, Buena Vista, the distributor of Face/Off, staged a screening specifically for the style press. The PR material waxed lyrical about a new genre of "style-led" action thrillers with a "definite fashion statement".

A spokeswoman for Buena Vista explains: "We are trying to cross markets. This film is much more than a normal action thriller. We are trying to appeal to people who would not normally think of going to see an action-type film. It's a small part of the overall film campaign. But it gets another element into the film." And what does the designer get out of it? "Face/Off has created a sensation in the US," says the blurb. "It is bound to have a similar effect in the UK, with a strong influence on fashion this autumn/winter." And there it is, in a nutshell: Elizabeth Taylor's party dress, Uma Thurman's nail varnish, Nicolas Cage's frock coat.

For Donna Karan, one of the most famous names in fashion, it's good business. And she needs it. In the first six months of 1997, Donna Karan International lost $13.8 million, after a $7.5 million profit last year. Now she has John Travolta and Nick Cage in Face/Off wearing her clothes. Next it's Gwyneth Paltrow as Estella in Great Expectations, due for release in the US in December. "It's unbelievable," says Patti Cohen, president of publicity for Donna Karan in New York. "It's a wonderful vehicle for our clothes. It's very difficult to put a dollar value on it."

Visibility is everything. And so Nicole Kidman wears Dior at the Oscars — a long chartreuse Chinese-embroidered satin gown (you may have seen the copies); Liz Hurley wears Versace to the premieres, and Demi Moore, who is rumoured to be trying to buy the rights to Coco Chanel's life story (just think of the merchandising!), turns up at fashion shows almost as regularly as Suzy Menkes.

"I can't honestly say it's an entirely new thing," says Chris Hemblade, assistant editor of the film magazine Empire. "Film and fashion people have always been interlinked in the circles in which they move. They've always had a symbiotic relationship. They are just exploiting that more now.

"If you compare the situation now with Audrey Hepburn's association with Givenchy, it's much more organised today. People have become media-savvy, and there's so much riding on these films that you have to become more and more imaginative to make sure it's your film everyone's talking about.

"Fashion puts films into another area of the media and gets the film talked about," Hemblade continues. "Studio marketing directors are grabbing at every opportunity. Take Men In Black and the link with Ray-Ban. There's a lot of cross-branding, aggressive commercialism." Both within the film and beyond. To mark the launch of Alan Parker's Evita, starring the always fashion-conscious Madonna (she dumped Versace in favour of John Galliano for the Los Angeles premiere), the New York emporium Bloomingdales launched nine Evita clothes shops stocking the entire wardrobe of the former Argentine first lady. There was even an Estée Lauder lipstick called Evita Red Hot, price £12.50.

Enough to make you breathless? Hemblade is unperturbed. "I don't think it's a bad thing," he says. "It's just finding more imaginative ways of marketing your film." Maybe, but suddenly the innocent charm of Hepburn, gauche and gamine in Givenchy, seems very appealing.

Undressing Cinema is published on November 11 by Routledge, price £12.99.

Now it's Radio 3's turn to chase the under-30s. But patronising the 'kids' isn't the way to do it, says **Stephen Follows**

Humbug: the next generation

Provocations

Nicholas Kenyon's at it again. The more we loyal listeners hear about the Radio 3 controller's "improvements" to the station, the more we despair. It's not just the manner of their publication — although hiding behind an internal policy document and looking peeved when it gets leaked is never a sure way of making friends — but the lack of understanding of his station's audience.

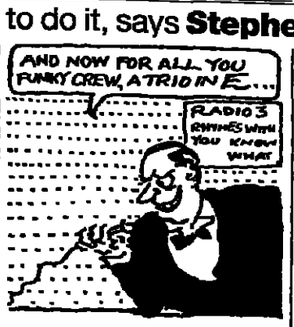
If you find a copy of the Guide To Available Commissions And Offers Process 1998/'99, snap it up, as they're rarer than hens' teeth. You'll find the document talking about the network's newly discovered need for accessibility, "relevance" and ratings. Nothing wrong with gaining an audience, of course (although you'd think 2.5 million was a figure to be proud of), but everything wrong with going at it by turning the network into a mood-music station.

From April 1998, we won't be allowed "difficult" music in most programmes, "experts" or "specialist presenters" (ie, people who know what they're talking about), and we won't be allowed to be "specialised audiences". So bad luck all you opera buffs who don't like organ music — you'll all be thrown into the same pot.

Why is Radio 3 embarking on this headlong dash to lose its core audience? It's that well-known buzzword of modern times, "youth". Like all the other Birt-infested offices at Broadcasting House, Radio 3 is terrified of having an audience that is too old. As we've seen with Radios 2 and 4 recently, listeners don't count on the great ratings abacus unless they're well under middle age (but not, bizarrely, if they're children).

Leaving aside the crass ageism this represents (I'm 30, by the way), this shows little understanding of youth itself. For one thing, it makes no sense to talk about "youth" as though it were a single, sliceable commodity, like butter or cheesecake. Like any other stratum of society, under-30s are an amalgam of a huge number of disparate individuals, with as huge a number of varied interests. And, yes, plenty are passionate and curious about classical music. Think of the numbers learning musical instruments, the numbers regularly playing in youth orchestras or singing in choirs and (get your binoculars out, Nicholas) flooding to classical concerts, especially the Proms.

They go because the music challenges and excites them. Simon Rattle tells a story about taking his orchestra round Birmingham schools to show children who never had a chance to hear orchestral music what it was all about. They were most ecstatic about the piece Rattle had been unsure about trying — Boulez's Eclat. Contrast Radio 3's attitude to the young: a poster from the Proms campaign that read "Mind Expanding Experiences That'll Have You Craving For More. Three Quid". You can just see the men in suits frowning over their sherry, saying, "What do we know about teenagers? Oh, they all take drugs, don't they?"



Nobody needs that sort of patronising, least of all the young, who have no trouble spotting humbug. Anyone talking down to their audience, especially to a young one, will inevitably lose it. Anyone who insists they know what their audience will like, rather than offering it what they think is valuable and letting it make up its own mind, deserves to lose it.

People make much of Radio 3's duty to educate. It's in the station's interest to do so, because bringing people to the novel and difficult, and promising that it will be followed by more, gains you an audience — in just the way The Rite of Spring hooked me, 20 years ago, at the age of 10 — and you'll keep that audience far, far into the future.

Stephen Follows is chairman of the Save Radio 3 campaign.

هكذا من الاصل

Racing

Chris Hawkins on a young man's new venture and a classic trainer who ended a 40-year career at Newmarket yesterday

Noseda seeking second success story

"WHEN you are a Maktoum man you tend to lose touch with reality — it will be good for me to get out there with ordinary people," said Jeremy Noseda, recently returned from training for Sheikh Mohammed in California to set up on his own at Newmarket.

Noseda, 34, has bought Paul Kelleway's old yard and is combing the sales catalogues to put together a string of 45 horses to start in earnest on the Flat next season.

The Sheikh is not on his list of prospective owners at the moment and it looks as if Noseda will have to do it the hard way, although with Michael Tabor and Peter Savill promising him horses the going may not be that tough.

Noseda's story should give every aspiring young trainer hope, however, for this is a man with no racing background who started by having a pound each-way as a schoolboy.

"I'd never been around horses and when I was about 13 I decided I wanted to be a trainer and so the first step was to learn to ride. David Mould and his wife Marion taught me and then in the school holidays I worked in stables for Brian Swift and later Jeremy Tree.

"As a Catholic, I boarded at Stoneyhurst College in Lancashire and got in trouble for skipping off lessons to nip down to the betting shop. I remember getting a rocket when bunking off to watch Empery's Derby.

"I was pretty good at betting — I backed Golden Fleece at 33–1 for the Derby and Shergar at 16's — and when people realised I had a passion and a grasp of the game they were a bit more lenient towards me."

It would be fair to say that Noseda did not come from humble origins. His father was a wealthy business man but was not enamoured of his son's decision to turn his back on a place at Cambridge University.

Noseda wrote to 25 trainers and got two replies — one from John Dunlop who took him on as a "dogsbody" and eventually pupil assistant then assistant. Then came a key decision. He spent a winter working for John Gosden in California and got on so well that he went back for the next two winters. When Sheikh Mohammed asked Gosden to come to England as his private trainer Noseda came as number two.

Thus an association with the world's most powerful owner was formed and when in the autumn of 1993 Sheik Mohammed asked Noseda to join the Godolphin operation working alongside Simon Crisford and Hilal Ibrabim (later replaced by Saeed bin Suroor) he jumped at it. "He asked me on Arc day and I knew it was a once in a lifetime offer," remembers Noseda. "I said yes without any hesitation."

So off he went to Dubai where the horses received the best of everything and soon began to put together a string of results which made the rest of the racing world boggle.

In their second season Godolphin won 13 Group One races, including three on one day (in Japan, France and Italy) and the Derby, King George and Arc with Lammtarra.

Noseda describes that season as "unbelievable" but regrets that he did not enjoy it more.

"It was success on such a high level that it spoiled me in a way and I became a bit blase," he said. "I know now that it's the sort of thing that I'll never be able to repeat in my career and I wish I'd been able to put it in a bottle and take a little swig every so often to remind of how wonderful it was."

In the winner's enclosure after Lammtarra had won the King George Sheikh Mohammed said that he was going to set up Noseda as a trainer in France but this did not materialise. Noseda wanted to train on his own but had no great desire to go to France and went instead to Hollywood Park in California with the Sheikh's blessing, but with only nine of his horses: "I had 15 horses in that first season and decided I needed to make a major impact right away to get things rolling.

"I won with my first runner, Chequers, and four of my first five runners were winners but, to my disappointment, I failed to attract any new owners.

"Racing in America is the hardest in the world — the tracks are very firm and the racing is very fast. I regarded my two years there as a qualified success but my heart was in England and this is where I wanted to be."

A season ticket holder at Tottenham, he is watching plenty of football — although not necessarily enjoying it — but most of his time is spent supervising rebuilding and buying yearlings.

After a dabble on the all-weather in the winter, he will be looking for a fast start on the Flat with Walter Swinburn, hopefully back from his enforced sabbatical, riding most of his horses; two men with a point to prove.

On the lookout . . . Jeremy Noseda at the Newmarket sales and an eye out for a winner PHOTOGRAPH: TREVOR JONES

Hern bows out with a loser but no complaints

MAJOR Dick Hern, who began training in 1957 and won 16 British Classics, plus eight Irish and two French, saddled his last runner yesterday when Ghalib dead-heated for third place in the James Seymour Stakes at Newmarket.

Having been presented with a bottle of champagne by racecourse chairman Peter Player, Hern said: "I would like to have had my last runner a winner but if you want something too much you never get it. It didn't work out and there you are.

"I really can't complain. I have had a long career — I have been training for 40 years and as I wasn't that young when I started, that's not too bad. It is very nice to have my last runner at Newmarket, the finest racecourse in the world.

"It is most kind of the people that have written articles and said what a fine fellow I am, but I think they may have overdone it a bit."

Looking back at the highs and lows of his career, Hern added: "Obviously Brigadier Gerard was a great horse, but the time when Nashwan won the 2000 Guineas was my best moment in racing, not only at Newmarket, but anywhere.

"I think the worst time here was when Gorytus trailed in last in the Dewhurst. He started odds-on and we never got to the bottom of what happened."

Nashwan's Guineas win was Hern's perfect riposte after The Queen's racing manager Lord Carnarvon had announced that the trainer's lease at her West Ilsley Stables would not be renewed.

Asked as to why the victory had given him such satisfaction, Hern, who left West Ilsley to train at Kingswood House for Nashwan's owner Sheikh Hamdan Al-Maktoum in 1991, replied: "I'll leave it to you to work that out."

Sheikh Hamdan's racing manager Angus Gold added his voice to the tributes, saying: "In my capacity working for Sheikh Hamdan, we have had enormous luck and success with Dick with Nashwan, Dayjur, Alhaarth, Sarayir and other horses as well. What a pleasure it has been to share some of those moments, and how fantastic a job he has done with all the horses.

"He is an exceptional trainer and I have never worked with a more professional man.

"Nashwan was an exceptional horse. For a horse to do what he did and come and win the Guineas without having had a run before, and to go on and win the Derby after that — it doesn't get much better than that."

Ghalib's jockey Richard Hills will remember Hern's final runner with little satisfaction.

Hills, who had earlier partnered Rabah to victory for John Dunlop in the NGK Spark Plugs Soham House Conditions Stakes, was ruled to have dropped his hands by the stewards, costing his mount outright third, and was suspended five days November (10-15).

Frankie Dettori, who won the race on Saafeya, was referred to the Jockey Club at Portman Square after being found guilty of careless riding on Baajil, who finished second to Tussle in the opening Red Lodge Maiden Stakes.

Lorcan Wyer expects to be out for at least three weeks after sustaining a suspected broken left wrist when falling on Russian Rascal in the Demmy The Bookmaker Four Year Old Handicap Hurdle at Wetherby.

Hern . . . happy memories

Newmarket Jackpot card with TV form guide

	RON COX	TOP FORM
1.00	Pontoon	Lea Grande
1.30	Bridge	Blue Desert
2.05	Shudder	Always On My Mind
2.40	Samara	Samara
3.10	Sinon	Sinon
3.45	Myrtle Quest	For Your Eyes Only
4.15	Zuro (nap)	Knobbleeneeze

Galloping track of 2¼m with right-hand bend at halfway. Straight course of 1¼m.
Going: Good to firm. ★ Denotes blinkers.
Draw: No advantage.
Long distance travellers: Begorrat (3.45) D Moffatt, Cumbria, 231 miles.
Seven day winners: 3.45 Prince Of Denial.
Blinkered or visored first time: None.
Figures in brackets after horse's name denote days since last outing. J, Jumps.

1.00 E.B.F. BALATON LODGE MAIDEN FILLIES' STAKES 2YO
7f £4,078 (19 declared)

[illegible]

1.30 NGK SPARK PLUGS SELLING STAKES 2YO
1m £4,110 (20 declared)

[illegible]

2.05 EQUITY FINANCIAL COLLECTIONS CONDITIONS STAKES
6f £5,070 (7 declared)

[illegible]

2.40 BEN MARSHALL STAKES
1m £10,288 (5 declared) CH4

[illegible]

3.10 NGK SPARK PLUGS ZETLAND STAKES 2YO
1m 2f £9,036 (7 declared) CH4

[illegible]

3.45 LADBROKE AUTUMN HANDICAP
1m £22,900 (28 declared) CH4

[illegible]

4.15 BURROUGH GREEN HANDICAP
7f £5,381 (25 declared) CH4

[illegible]

COURSE SPECIALISTS

[illegible]

Trainer watch

[illegible]

Ascot (N.H.) runners and riders

	RON COX	TOP FORM
12.50	Palaemon	Mystik Day
1.20	Ginger Fox	Punkah
1.55	God Speed You	Stormtracker
2.30	Celibate (nb)	Celibate
3.05	Supreme Charm	Supreme Charm
3.40	Amlah	Herbert Lodge
4.10	Mrs Em	Mrs Em

Testing, right-handed triangular course of 1¾m with 240yds run-in, mostly uphill. Stiff fences.
Going: Good (good to firm in places). ★ Denotes blinkers.
Long distance travellers: Down The Fell (2.30) and Castleve (3.40) J Johnson, Co.Durham, 275 miles.
Seven day winners: None.
Blinkered first time: None. Visored: 3.40 Grundon.
Figures in brackets after horse's name denote days since last outing. F, Flat.

12.50 UNITED HOUSE NOVICE HURDLE 3YO
2m 110yds £3,485 (6 declared)

1	111 Mystik Day (26) (D) M Pipe 11–12	C Maude ●90
2	Borrador (F31) R Curtis 11–0	D Morris —
3	Junikay (F11) R Ingram 11–0	D Gallagher —
4	Palaemon (F24) G Balding 11–0	B Fenton —
5	Virtuoso (F149) C Mann 11–0	M A Fitzgerald 80
6	1 Sound Appeal (14) A Foster 10–13	A Thornton —

Betting: 7–4 Virtuoso, 2–1 Mystik Day, 3–1 Palaemon, 11–2 Sound Appeal, 25–1 Junikay, 33–1 Borrador

1.20 UNITED HOUSE DEVELOPMENT NOVICE HURDLE
2m 110yds £3,518 (9 declared) BBC1

[illegible]

1.55 BAGSHOT HANDICAP CHASE
3m 110yds £8,099 (9 declared) BBC1

[illegible]

2.30 UNITED HOUSE CONSTRUCTION HANDICAP CHASE
2m £16,856 (8 declared) BBC1

[illegible]

3.05 BILL BIGMORE 60TH BIRTHDAY NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE
2m 4f £3,599 (10 declared)

[illegible]

3.40 BINFIELD NOVICE CHASE
2m 3f 110yds £4,143 (7 declared)

[illegible]

4.10 COPPER HORSE HANDICAP HURDLE
2m 110yds £4,597 (6 declared)

[illegible]

COURSE SPECIALISTS

[illegible]

Results

NEWMARKET

[illegible]

BANGOR

[illegible]

WETHERBY

[illegible]

2.10 (3m 1f Ch): 1, MAYBE O'GRADY, N Smith (7–4); 2, King Girseach (6–1). Two finished. Evens fav Share Options. 4 ran. 12. (W Cunningham) Tote: £2.30. Dual F: £3.80. CSF: £9.62. NR: Boston Man.
2.45 (2m Ch): 1, CUMBRIAN CHALLENGE, L Wyer (100–30); 2, Tapatch (3–1); 3, Marble Man (7–2). 2–1 fav Regal Romper. 4 ran. ¾, 6. (T Easterby) Tote: £3.50. Dual F: £8.20. CSF: £10.77.

[illegible]

3.45 (2m Ch): 1, DIRECT ROUTE, P Carberry (2–7 fav); 2, Dawn Mission (7–2); 3, Newton Mist (16–1) 3 ran. 11, 4. (J Howard Johnson) Tote: £1.30. Dual F: £1.10. CSF: £1.53.
4.20 (3m 1f Hdle): 1, THIRTY BELOW, G Lee (5–1); 2, Celtic Duke (6–1); 3, Moonlight Venture (20–1). 5–2 fav Scotton Green. 6 ran. 2½, 2. (M Chapman) Tote: £7.00; £1.40, £2.10, £3.30. Dual F: £17.50. CSF: £27.95. Tricast: £442.75.
PLACEPOT: £1,507.20. QUADPOT: £46.90.

KEEPING TRACK
0891 222 +

	COMMENTARY	RESULTS
NEWMARKET	771	781
ASCOT	772	782
WETHERBY	773	783
KELSO	774	784
WOLVERHAMTON (E)	775	785
ALL COURSES COMMENTARY	0891 222 780	
ALL COURSES RESULTS	0891 222 790	

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The Guardian INTERACTIVE

Racing

Sinon can prove a bright spark

Ron Cox expects Mark Johnston to land Zetland prize for the third time in five years

THE reappearance of familiar names on the jumping scene, set alongside newcomers striving to make an impact as the Flat season winds down at Newmarket, combine to make this one of the most fascinating days in the autumn racing calendar.

At Wetherby, One Man sets out on the road which will lead to a third attempt on Kempton's Christmas feature, the King George, when he attempts to repeat last year's victory in the Charlie Hall Chase.

At Ascot, Storm Alert is out again in the United House Construction Handicap Chase, a race he won in 1993, '94 and again last year.

At Newmarket, meanwhile, the NGK Spark Plugs Zetland Stakes, won last year by the subsequent St Leger hero, Silver Patriarch, promises to be another informative affair.

The trip of 10 furlongs provides a stiff test for a two-year-old, even at this late stage of the year, but twice in the past four seasons Mark Johnston has come up with the answer and it can pay to follow the Middleham trainer again.

Both the stable's top stayers, Double Trigger and Double Eclipse, won this race for Johnston, who runs Sinon, St Helensfield and Trigger Happy today. Pick of the trio should be the promisingSinon (3.10).

Like Trigger and Eclipse, Sinon is sired by Ela-Mana-Mou and he looked a good stayer in the making when successful over nine furlongs on his debut at Redcar at the end of September.

Another two-year-old who could make a name for herself today is Pontoon (1.00), who has a belated first outing in the Balaton Lodge Maiden Fillies Stakes. Henry Cecil's daughter of Zafonic has repeatedly caught the eye of Newmarket work-watchers.

Zurs (4.15) has no aspirations to stardom, but can be given a solid chance in the concluding Burrough Green Handicap.

He fared best of those racing in the centre of the course when just beaten by Victory Team at Newbury last week and, with Richard Mullen back in the saddle, can take his revenge on the winner today.

Over at Wetherby, One Man (3.25) needs to put up a convincing display in the Charlie Hall after his stuttering finish to last season when he was pulled up at Aintree with a broken blood vessel.

Barton Bank took his chance to register a deserved big-race win that day, but One Man had beaten David Nicholson's chaser by seven lengths in this race and by more than 20 lengths when winning his second King George.

Although Barton Bank subsequently ran One Man to a head in the Pillar Chase at Cheltenham, we know all too well by now that Prestbury Park's stiff uphill finish is not for Gordon Richards's grey. One Man goes well fresh and there can be no excuses today.

Storm Alert beat only three rivals, including runner-up Big Matt, who is 13lb better off for a neck, when notching his third success in Ascot's valuable two-mile chase last year.

Although he went on to claim the scalp of Ask Tom at a later meeting, Storm Alert has more to do on his reappearance today and there are several lightly-weighted opponents who seem sure to test him.

Chief amongst them is well-handicappedCelibate (2.30). One of last season's most talented novice chasers, Charlie Mann's six-year-old won gamely at Kempton despite needing the run. He should pay his way in handicaps of this nature.

Off 10st in the Bagshot Handicap Chase, God Speed You (1.55) could spring a surprise. He usually jumps well and can sustain a strong gallop.

Leader of the pack . . . Frankie Dettori heads for victory on Saafeya in the James Seymour Stakes at Newmarket yesterday PHOTOGRAPH: ALLSPORT

Sport in brief

Schumacher loses award nomination

MICHAEL SCHUMACHER's nomination for one of ITV's Champions of Sport awards was withdrawn yesterday after his controversial collision with Jacques Villeneuve in the European Grand Prix in Jerez last Sunday.

Schumacher was in contention for the Best International Sportsman award at a ceremony being staged at Wembley next Saturday. But his manoeuvre, which appeared to be an attempt to force Villeneuve off the track and thus give the world title to the German, prompted the change of plan.

Instead the two-times world champion has been replaced by Villeneuve. The judging panel will include the Minister for Sports Tony Banks and the Olympic medallists Sally Gunnell and Sharron Davies.

Tyson fit in six weeks

MIKE TYSON will need six weeks to recover fully from Wednesday's motorcycling accident which left him with a punctured lung and a broken rib.

The former world heavyweight champion underwent tests at Hartford Hospital in Connecticut yesterday and Dr Ira Trocki, Tyson's medic and plastic surgeon, said the injuries should not affect the fighter's boxing skills.

Tyson, 31, is serving a one-year ban from boxing for biting a piece off Evander Holyfield's ear. "I really think I'll be banned for the rest of my life," Tyson said in an interview before the accident, although he wants to carry on fighting. "Sure I'm going to fight. Done that all my life. Of course I want to fight."

Horsman undergoes surgery

CHRIS HORSMAN, the 20-year-old Bath front-row forward, has had an operation to remove a malignant tumour.

Horsman, who came on as substitute in Bath's Premiership defeat at Leicester last Saturday, was diagnosed by a cancer specialist on Tuesday and underwent immediate surgery. "Chris has asked us not to reveal any further details about his condition at the moment. He only returned home on Friday and is feeling the effects of the operation," said a spokeswoman for the rugby union club.

England hang in for bronze

ENGLAND, in the sixth round of the chess's world team championship, again made heavy weather of defeating a weaker team in Lucerne but Jon Speelman's win gave them a 2½–1½ victory over Kazakhstan which kept them in third place with three rounds remaining, *writes Leonard Barden*. Despite playing well below form, England are only half a point behind Russia and one point behind the United States, and Russia and the US play today.

Wetherby (N.H.) with TV form guide

	RON COX	TOP FORM
12.40	Banker Count	Golden Thunderbolt
1.10	Spearhead Again	Spearhead Again
1.45	Forestal	Welsh Mill
2.20	Glemot	Simply Dashing
2.50	Pridwell	Pridwell
3.25	One Man	One Man
4.00	Amitge	Amitge (nap)

Left-handed circuit of 1½m with 200yds run-in which is slightly uphill. A fair course which suits the long-striding galloper.

Going: Good to firm. ★ Denotes blinkers.

Long distance travellers: Yubralee (1.45), Pridwell (2.50) and Amitge (4.00) M Pipe, Devon, 263 miles; Symbol of Success (1.10) and Hermes Harvest (3.25) D Williams, Berkshire, 201 miles.

Seven day winners: 1.10 Symbol Of Success; 3.25 Hermes Harvest.

Blinkered or visored first time: None

Figures in brackets after horse's name denote days since last outing. F, Flat.

12.40 BOLTON PERCY NOVICE HURDLE
2m £3,652 (5 declared)

1 0- Alzotic (F16) J Norton 4-11-0 ... D Byrne —
2 6632 Banker Count (231) M W Easterby 5-11-0 A P McCoy 89
3 2 Golden Thunderbolt (7) N Tinkler 4-11-0 R Dunwoody ●90
4 064-22 Lord Of The Rings (65) (BF) F Murphy 5-11-0 ... D Thomas (7) 89
5 0060U- My Shenandoah (245) J Howard Johnson 6-11-0 ... Mr S Durack (7) 78

Betting: 5-4 Banker Count, 6-4 Golden Thunderbolt, 8-1 Lord Of The Rings, 10-1 Alzotic, 16-1 My Shenandoah

1.10 ARTHUR STEPHENSON NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE
2m 4f 110yds £4,736 (4 declared)

1 60F6-1 Spearhead Again (11) (D) Miss V Williams 8-11-10 ... A Maguire ●90
2 00/3-1 Symbol Of Success (7) D Williams 6-11-9 ... Mr S Durack (7) 89
3 5142P- Lifebuoy (296) (D) (BF) J Turner 6-11-0 ... R Supple —
4 00/4-U Gavaskar (7) A Streeter 8-10-0 ... T Eley —

Betting: evens Spearhead Again, 7-4 Symbol Of Success, 11-2 Lifebuoy, 12-1 Gavaskar

1.45 STANLEY RACING HANDICAP HURDLE
2m £3,444 (6 declared)

1 111143 Yubralee (38) (D) (BF) M Pipe 5-12-0 ... A P McCoy 88
2 23213- Good Vibes (286) (CD) T Easterby 5-11-0 ... L Wyer 89
3 211/31 Welsh Mill (17) (CD) Mrs M Reveley 8-10-13 .. P Niven ●90
4 41504- Forestal (193) (D) J Howard Johnson 5-10-13 ... A Maguire 82
5 11- Alabang (333) (D) M Camacho 6-10-8 ... R Dunwoody 87
6 25-122 Secret Service (17) (D) (BF) C Thornton 5-10-5 ... N Horrocks (7) 88

Betting: 5-2 Good Vibes, 7-2 Welsh Mill, Alabang, 9-2 Secret Service, 8-1 Yubralee.

2.20 PETERHOUSE GROUP HANDICAP CHASE
2m 4f 110yds £6,782 (4 declared)

1 111F2- Simply Dashing (253) (CD) (BF) T Easterby 6-11-10 ... R Dunwoody ●90
2 1116-F Senor El Betrutti (14) (D) Mrs S Nock 8-11-8 ... A P McCoy 87
3 P1F-33 Glemot (8) (C) (D) P R Webber 9-11-0 ... A Maguire 89
4 1/54-2 Strath Royal (17) (D) O Brennan 11-10-3 . M Brennan 89

Betting: 4-5 Simply Dashing, 4-1 Senor El Betrutti, Glemot, 11-2 Strath Royal.

2.50 TOTE WEST YORKSHIRE HDLE — CH4
3m 1f £11,360 (2 declared)

1 02121- Pridwell (182) M Pipe 7-11-4 ... A P McCoy ●90
2 14203- Mistinguett (215) (BF) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-2 ... C Llewellyn 88

Betting: 2-5 Pridwell, 2-1 Mistinguett.

FORM GUIDE – Pridwell: Unreliable performer but useful on his day, latest given good ride to beat Yahmi 2l at Haydock 2m7f hdl, Gd; earlier finished 7th behind Make A Stand in Champion Hurdle, with Mistinguett (rec 5lb) another 3l away 10th. Mistinguett: Best effort last season, made all to beat Dato Star 4l at Haydock 2m hdl, Gd, with Pridwell (gave 5lb) another 19l 4th.

3.25 CHARLIE HALL CHASE — CH4
3m 1f £18,390 (4 declared)

1 3221F- Barton Bank (196) (CD) (BF) D Nicholson 11-11-10 ... A Maguire 82
2 1126P- One Man (212) (CD) (BF) G Richards 9-11-10 ... R Dunwoody ●90
3 1214/1 Hermes Harvest (7) (D) D Williams 9-11-2 Mr S Durack ★
4 PP4U-5 Master Boston (17) (C) R Woodhouse 9-11-2 ... W Dwan —

Betting: 1-2 One Man, 7-4 Barton Bank, 20-1 Hermes Harvest, 50-1 Master Boston.

FORM GUIDE – Barton Bank: In touch when fell 7 out in Whitbread Gold Cup won by Harwell Lad at Sandown 3m5f hcap ch; previously won by 9l from Merry Gale at Aintree 3m1f ch, Gd, where One Man (gave 6lb) broke blood vessel and pulled up with circuit to go. One Man: Goes well fresh and beat Barton Bank (levels) by 7l in this race last year, Gd-Fm. Hermes Harvest: Jumped well, clear 2 out, ridden out to beat Highbeath 11l at M Rasen 3m1f hcap ch, Gd. Master Boston: Prominent until weakened approaching 4 out, 16l 5th of 6 behind Bertone at Wetherby 2m4f hcap ch, Gd-Fm.

4.00 WENSLEYDALE JUVENILE NOVICE HURDLE 3YO — CH4
2m £8,955 (7 declared)

1 1 Monarch's Pursuit (17) (CD) T Easterby 11-2 ... R Dunwoody 89
2 111 Amitge (30) (D) M Pipe 11-1 ... A P McCoy ●90
3 Count Tony (F72) M Hammond 10-12 ... D Bentley —
4 Lord Discord (F57) T Easterby 10-12 ... C Llewellyn —
5 Lurpak Legend Mrs M Reveley 10-12 ... P Niven —
6 21F Stoned Imaculate (F39) (BF) F Murphy 10-7 .. A Maguire 88
7 615 Top Shelf (23) P Bevan 10-7 ... W Worthington 78

Betting: 11-10 Amitge, 9-4 Monarch's Pursuit, 7-2 Stoned Imaculate, 16-1 Count Tony, 25-1 Lord Discord, Lurpak Legend, Top Shelf.

FORM GUIDE – Monarch's Pursuit: Headway on bit halfway, led 3 out, ran on approaching last, comfortably, won by 7l from Dulas Bay at Wetherby 2m nov hdl, Gd-Fm. Amitge: Yet to be seriously tested, latest won by hard-held 4l from La Dolce Vita at Hereford 2m1f nov hdl, Gd-Fm. Stoned Imaculate: Has won twice over 2m on Flat since fell at first flight at Bangor; beat Manileno by 29l on second hurdles outing at Cartmel 2m1f, Gd-Fm

COURSE SPECIALISTS

Jockeys	1st	Runs	%	Level St	Trainers	1st	Runs	%	Level St
P Niven	42	155	27.1	-5.32	Mrs Reveley	42	166	25.3	-35.68
L Wyer	35	145	24.1	+16.94	G Richards	23	96	24.3	-8.00
A Maguire	21	88	24.4	+45.38	D Nicholson	16	58	27.6	+1.10
A Dobbin	19	110	17.3	-9.49	M W Easterby	14	102	13.7	-32.49
R Guest	17	79	21.5	+6.56	J Johnson	13	71	18.3	+71.74
R Garritty	11	117	9.4	-60.09	T Easterby	11	57	19.3	-4.53
P Carberry	9	37	24.3	+18.64	M Hammond	8	121	6.61	-83.50

Kelso (N.H.)

	RON COX	TOP FORM
12.45	Pebble Beach	Pebble Beach
1.15	Chinook's Daughter	Chinook's Daughter
1.50	Briar's Delight	Know-No-No
2.25	Mister Woodstick	Calling The Tune
2.55	Popeshall	Tighter Budget
3.30	Pharmistice	Fatehalkhair
4.05	Lumback Lady	Charlistiona

Left-handed track; chase course 1m3f, hurdles track 1¼m and sharper with tight turn away from the stands. Lengthy run-in of 440yds is uphill

Going: Good to firm. ★ Denotes blinkers

Long distance travellers: Highland Way (4.05) M Todhunter, Cumbria 119 miles; Royal Vacation (2.55) and Pebble Beach (12.45) G M Moore, N Yorks, 112 miles.

Seven day winners: None

Blinkered first time: None. **Visored:** 2.25 King Of Show, Anika's Gem.

Figures in brackets after horse's name denote days since last outing. F, Flat.

12.45 NOVICE CHASE
3m 1f £2,801 (7 declared)

1 -51130 Two For One (17) Miss L Russell 8-11-6 ... A Dobbin
2 F20-21 Pebble Beach (21) (D) G M Moore 7-11-2 ... J Callaghan
3 45-3FU Cottstown Boy (18) Mrs S Bradburne 6-10-10 ... Mr M Bradburne (7)
4 1/22-2 Gwenmeyourland (21) J Charlton 8-10-10 ... B Storey
5 5R-U22 Kings Minstral (22) (BF) D Lamb 7-10-10 ... J Burke
6 -6P5C3 War Whoop (14) Miss L Russell 5-10-6 ... M Foster
7 4504-4 Aide Memoire (18) R Johnson 8-10-5 ... K Johnson

Betting: 5-2 Pebble Beach, 4-1 Gwenmeyourland, 9-2 War Whoop, 6-1 Two For One, 13-2 Aide Memoire, 7-1 Kings Minstral, 10-1 Cottstown Boy.

1.15 PETER & GILLIAN ALLAN NOVICE HURDLE
2m 6f 110yds £2,696 (6 declared)

1 2-44 Little Duke (22) Mrs S Bradburne 5-10-12 ... Mr M Bradburne (7)
2 0-0 Mill-Dot (22) F Murtagh 5-10-12 ... E Callaghan (3)
3 00P-55 Chinook's Daughter (14) G Richards 5-10-7 ... A Dobbin
4 3050P- Delightfool (192) R Nash 6-10-7 ... C McCormack (7)
5 PP0/44 Finer Feelings (27) Mrs D Thomson 5-10-7 ... T Reed
6 PP/4P- More Champagne (296) Mrs D Thomson 7-10-7 .. L O'Hara

Betting: 10-11 Chinook's Daughter, 3-1 Finer Feelings, 7-2 Little Duke, 14-1 Mill-Dot, 25-1 Delightfool, More Champagne.

1.50 ISLE OF SKYE BLENDED SCOTCH WHISKY HANDICAP CHASE
2m 1f £4,007 (6 declared)

1 -13211 Know-No-No (37) (D) M Hammond 8-12-0 ... R Garritty
2 10/12- Briar's Delight (343) (CD) (BF) R Allan 9-11-2 A Dobbin ★
3 P40-54 Movac (22) Miss L Russell 8-10-0 ... A S Smith
4 -43-54 Blazing Dawn (21) (D) J Hubbuck 10-10-0 ... B Storey
5 0P4SS- Regal Domain (161) Mrs L Marshall 6-10-0 ... K Johnson
6 PP-436 Super Guy (7) J Barclay 5-10-0 ... C McCormack (7)

Betting: 4-5 Know-No-No, 5-2 Briar's Delight, 13-2 Blazing Dawn, 10-1 Movac.

2.25 HARROW HOTEL (DALKEITH) NOVICE SELLING HURDLE
2m 110yds £1,912 (9 declared)

1 0/6P-6 Calling The Tune (14) Ms L Plater 6-10-12 E Callaghan (3)
2 Grand Popo (F372) Mrs M Reveley 4-10-12 ... M H Naughton (5)
3 Highfield Pet (F36) C Grant 4-10-12 ... B Storey
4 P000/ King Of Show (F31) R Allan 6-10-12 ... S Melrose (7) ★
5 6 Mister Woodstick (22) C Parker 4-10-12 ... D Parker
6 0 Oriel Lad (14) Miss M Milligan 4-10-12 ... C McCormack (7)
7 203-4 Anika's Gem (38) Mrs S Bradburne 4-10-7 ... A Dobbin ★
8 6 Durrowan (27) Mrs M Reveley 4-10-7 ... G Lee (3)
9 3 She's A Winner (F138) P Monteith 4-10-7 ... I Jardine (7)

Betting: 11-4 Durrowan, 5-1 Mister Woodstick, She's A Winner, 6-1 Anika's Gem, 7-1 Highfield Pet, 8-1 Calling The Tune, Grand Popo, 10-1 King Of Show, Oriel Lad.

2.55 SALVESEN FOOD SERVICES HANDICAP CHASE
2m 6f 110yds £5,084 (4 declared)

1 -1231U Royal Vacation (14) (CD) G M Moore 8-12-0 ... J Callaghan
2 22/0-4 Popeshall (17) (C) Miss S Williamson 10-11-6 ... J Supple
3 142122 Tighter Budget (14) (CD) Dianne Sayer 10-11-6 ... A Dobbin
4 213123 The Toaster (32) Miss M Milligan 10-11-1 ... E Callaghan (3)

Betting: 7-4 Tighter Budget, 9-4 Royal Vacation, 5-2 The Toaster, 6-1 Popeshall

3.30 EDINBURGH & NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY TURF CLUBS HANDICAP HURDLE
2m 6f 110yds £2,738 (4 declared)

1 10-211 Fatehalkhair (18) B Ellison 5-11-10 ... C McCormack (7)
2 6/10-2 Pharmistice (14) (CD) Mrs A Swinbank 6-10-1 ... J Supple
3 252/0- King Of The Horse (183) R Johnson 6-10-0 ... K Johnson
4 405-31 Sweet Noble (88) K Drewry 8-10-0 ... B Grattan (5)

Betting: 11-10 Fatehalkhair, 11-8 Pharmistice, 4-1 Sweet Noble, 33-1 King Of The Horse.

4.05 LEVY BOARD CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS' HANDICAP HURDLE
2m 110yds £2,220 (6 declared)

1 42/50- Shahgram (287) (D) J Hubbuck 9-11-10 ... B Grattan
2 02-444 Astraleon (14) (CD) R Allan 9-11-7 ... S Melrose (3)
3 433432 Highland Way (7) M Todhunter 9-11-4 . C McCormack (3)
4 2404-6 Lumback Lady (14) B Mactaggart 7-10-9 ... G Lee
5 B123-6 Charlistiona (18) (D) J Dodds 6-10-4 ... E Callaghan
6 603-64 Amber Holly (14) J Dixon 8-10-0 ... R McGrath

Betting: 13-8 Highland Way, 3-1 Lumback Lady, 7-2 Amber Holly, 5-1 Astraleon, 7-1 Charlistiona, 10-1 Shahgram.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

Jockeys	1st	Runs	%	Level St	Trainers	1st	Runs	%	Level St
P Niven	43	130	33.1	-18.41	Mrs Reveley	35	113	31.8	+0.60
A Dobbin	26	142	18.3	+27.86	M Hammond	21	93	22.5	-0.79
B Storey	22	154	14.3	-34.73	G Richards	19	87	21.7	-22.54
L Wyer	12	63	19	+14.99	P Monteith	15	112	12.4	+13.06
R Garritty	11	52	21.2	-0.43	G M Moore	13	56	23.2	-2.65
J Callaghan	11	54	20.4	-12.57	R Allan	10	64	15.6	-11.75
P Carberry	10	42	23.8	-4.87					

Wolverhampton (A.W.)

	RON COX	TOP FORM
7.00	Villarica	Villarica
7.30	State Approval	State Approval
8.00	Ballasilla	Rai Brisbane (nb)
8.30	State Of Caution	Cretan Gift
9.00	Lady Eil	Pink Ticket
9.30	Nineacres	Pharaoh's Joy

All-weather, left-handed, of just under 1m with run-in of 380yds.

Going: Standard. ★ Denotes blinkers.

Draw: High numbers slightly favoured.

Long distance travellers: Stoppes Brow (8.30) G L Moore, E Sussex, 178 miles.

Seven day winners: None.

Blinkered first time: None. **Visored:** 9.00 Sharp Monkey.

Figures in brackets after horse's name denote days since last outing. J, Jumps.

7.00 CHARLECOTE MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES 3YO
1m 100yds £2,427 (13 declared)

1 (12) 40 Concer Arall (187) S C Williams 9-0 ... Dane O'Neill
2 (2) 220040 Don't Worry Mike (8) J Spearing 9-0 ... P Fessey (3)
3 (7) 040 Ikram Boy (8) A Bailey 9-0 ... D Wright
4 (9) 65 Job Rage (17) A Bailey 9-0 ... S Sanders
5 (3) 00 Northern Accord (28) Mrs J Ramsden 9-0 ... J Fortune
6 (1) 054350 Presentiment (82) S Bowring 9-0 ... C Teague (5)
7 (13) 453400 Village Pub (11) K Cunningham-Brown 9-0 ... T Sprake
8 (5) 0 Eltamine (14) D Haydn Jones 8-9 ... S Drowne
9 (6) Lance's Pet D O'Brien 8-9 ... G Bardwell
10 (4) 60 Lawful Miss (10) C Dwyer 8-9 ... S Whitworth
11 (10) 0 Milky Way (10) A Hide 8-9 ... Dale Gibson
12 (8) 252200 Villarica (46) P Chapple-Hyam 8-9 ... R Havlin (3)
13 (11) 0600 Vibe Death (14) R Hollinshead 8-9 ... A Culhane

Betting: 13-8 Villarica, 7-1 Don't Worry Mike, Village Pub, 8-1 Ikram Boy, Northern Accord, 10-1 Concer Arall.

7.30 SHIFNAL CLAIMING STAKES
1m 4f £2,265 (12 declared)

1 (11) 113433 Greenspan (174) (CD) W Muir 5-9-11 ... A Clark
2 (1) 000025 Filial (30) (D) J Pearce 4-9-9 ... K Fallon
3 (6) 060060 Nikita's Star (49) (CD) D Murray Smith 4-9-9 ... C Lowther (3)
4 (3) 100050 White Plains (J14) K Burke 4-9-9 ... Dane O'Neill
5 (4) 001060 English Invader (5) (CD) C Dwyer 6-9-5 ... J Fortune
6 (8) 013044 Evezio Rufo (12) N Littmoden 5-9-5 ... P Roberts (3) ★
7 (9) 206010 Rex Mundi (15) (CD) (BF) P Evans 5-9-5 ... J F Egan
8 (5) 665315 State Approval (26) (CD) (BF) P Eccles 4-9-5 ... G Faulkner (5)
9 (7) 206013 Mystic Strand (98) (CD) W G M Turner 4-9-2 ... D McGaffin (7)
10 (10) 025048 Bonne Ville (28) (C) B Palling 3-8-8 ... T Sprake
11 (2) 153054 Madam Lucy (14) (C) J Spearing 3-8-5 ... P Fessey (3)
12 (12) 0 Lena's Pride (J87) G Barnett 4-8-2 ... N Carlisle

Betting: 7-2 Rex Mundi, 5-1 Greenspan, State Approval, 7-1 English Invader, Evezio Rufo, Mystic Strand, 10-1 Filial, White Plains, Madam Lucy

8.00 PENDEFORD MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES
6f £2,595 (13 declared)

1 (3) 0500 Arcane Star (9) A Jarvis 9-0 ... C Lowther (3)
2 (1) 000 Aries Boy (12) D O'Brien 9-0 ... G Bardwell
3 (2) 240260 Kennet (7) P Cundell 9-0 ... R Perham
4 (13) 0000 Long Island (4) R Hannon 9-0 ... Dane O'Neill
5 (5) 40 Main Street (10) W Haggas 9-0 ... F Lynch
6 (7) 30 Rai Brisbane (8) M Johnston 9-0 ... D Holland
7 (4) 4660 Sara Moon Classic (16) K McAuliffe 9-0 ... J F Egan
8 (10) 6 Sharp Fellow (100) I Balding 9-0 ... Martin Dwyer
9 (11) 506 Ballasilla (9) B Palling 8-9 ... T Sprake
10 (6) 64 Lady Laphroaig (66) (BF) W Muir 8-9 ... K Fallon
11 (12) 003205 Maedaley (32) Ron Thompson 8-9 ... V Halliday
12 (8) 50000 Maggies (26) R Hollinshead 8-9 ... A Culhane
13 (9) 0 Shocker (15) W Haggas 8-9 ... Jo Hunnam (5)

Betting: 9-4 Rai Brisbane, 7-2 Kennet, 5-1 Main Street, 11-2 Lady Laphroaig, 13-2 Sharp Fellow, 12-1 Long Island, 16-1 Ballasilla, Shocker

8.30 GODFREY MYTTON HANDICAP
7f £5,732 (12 declared)

1 (12) 441005 Cretan Gift (15) (C) N Littmoden 6-10-0 ... T G McLaughlin ★
2 (11) 404000 Bold Effort (8) (C) K Cunningham-Brown 5-9-12 ... T Sprake
3 (7) 350071 State Of Caution (14) (C) (D) D Shaw 4-9-3 ... J Fanning ★
4 (10) 030005 Astrac (8) (D) N Tinkler 6-9-6 ... S Sanders
5 (9) 200052 Albert The Bear (35) (D) J Berry 4-9-1 ... P Fessey (3) ★
6 (5) 135303 Mr Sponge (28) (D) I Balding 3-8-13 ... Martin Dwyer
7 (1) 662400 Stoppes Brow (14) (D) G L Moore 5-8-13 ... A Clark ★
8 (3) 002510 Pericles (16) (CD) Guy Kelleway 3-8-12 ... J Fortune
9 (4) 505004 Mr Bergerac (5) (C) B Palling 6-8-12 ... D Sweeney (3)
10 (2) RR0000 Sailormaite (5) (C) (D) S Bowring 6-8-10 ... S Webster
11 (2) 420044 Sir Joey (14) P Murphy 8-8-10 ... S Drowne
12 (5) 046504 Plan For Profit (8) (D) (BF) M Johnston 3-8-7 ... D Holland

Betting: 9-2 Cretan Gift, 11-2 Mr Bergerac, 6-1 Albert The Bear, Mr Sponge, 7-1 State Of Caution, 8-1 Astrac, Sir Joey

9.00 MIDLAND BAR SELLING NURSERY HANDICAP 2YO
1m 100yds £2,128 (13 declared)

1 (10) 100405 Docklands Dispatch (18) N Tinkler 9-7 ... Kim Tinkler
2 (6) 334201 Pink Ticket (14) (CD) P Evans 9-1 ... J F Egan
3 (8) 050 Monopoly (137) M Johnston 9-0 ... D Holland
4 (2) 030535 Emperor's Gold (28) I Campbell 9-0 ... A Mackay
5 (4) 140065 Island Girl (12) D Arbuthnot 8-12 ... S Whitworth
6 (11) 400343 Cherished (14) (BF) N Tinkler 8-11 ... S Sanders
7 (7) 000640 Toecomebackinday (12) S C Williams 8-10 ... K Fallon
8 (5) 460 Sharp Monkey (17) Mrs N Macauley 8-9 ... S Drowne ★
9 (12) 0000 Resurrection (16) R Hannon 8-8 ... Dane O'Neill
10 (3) 004 Lady Eil (18) B Smart 8-7 ... J Stack
11 (12) 3000 Safaben (14) J Cullinan 8-6 ... N Carlisle
12 (9) 600005 Mary Lou (18) M Channon 8-4 ... A Clark
13 (1) 004 Absolute Pet Girl (14) P Evans 8-1 ... A McCarthy (7)

Betting: 7-2 Pink Ticket, 5-1 Cherished, 7-1 Lady Eil, Mary Lou, 8-1 Docklands Dispatch, Emperor's Gold, Island Girl, Resurrection.

9.30 WEST MIDLANDS HANDICAP
6f £2,324 (13 declared)

1 (3) 000000 Mellors (31) (D) M Heaton-Ellis 4-10-0 ... S Drowne
2 (6) 005100 Hob Majestic (127) (CD) (BF) Ron Thompson 4-10-0 ... V Halliday ★
3 (12) 136440 Bold Aristocrat (28) (D) R Hollinshead 6-10-0 ... F Lynch
4 (5) 000000 Shadow Jury (10) (C) (D) D Chapman 7-9-13 ... J Fortune ★
5 (7) 453203 Pharaoh's Joy (34) (D) A Newcombe 4-9-12 ... A Mackay
6 (5) 012405 Village Native (28) (C) (D) K Cunningham-Brown 4-9-11 ... T Sprake
7 (1) 003040 Hannah's Usher (28) (CD) C Murray 5-9-11 ... Nicola Howarth
8 (3) 102060 Avery Leigh (63) (CD) J M Wilson 4-9-11 ... Angela Hartley (7) ★
9 (2) 600000 Super Rocky (10) (D) R Bastiman 8-9-10 ... H Bastiman (5) ★
10 (8) 032040 Will To Win (28) (CD) P Murphy 3-9-9 ... K Fallon
11 (11) 055206 Italian Symphony (11) P Evans 3-9-3 ... A McCarthy (7) ★
12 (4) -34030 Nineacres (17) N Babbage 6-9-8 ... Dane O'Neill ★
13 (10) 443000 Silk Cottage (54) (C) R Whitaker 5-9-9 ... Dean McKeown

Betting: 11-2 Pharaoh's Joy, Hannah's Usher, 13-2 Silk Cottage, 8-1 Mellors, Bold Aristocrat, Village Native, Will To Win.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

Jockeys	1st	Runs	%	Level St	Trainers	1st	Runs	%	Level St
J Weaver	58	278	20.9	+37.15	R Hollinshead	60	568	10.6	-178.29
S Sanders	39	324	12	-38.74	M Johnston	52	225	23.1	+36.78
L Dettori	32	157	20.4	-36.92	J Berry	43	296	14.5	101.21
G Carter	31	224	13.5	-44.19	A Bailey	34	297	11.8	-72.90
K Darley	32	116	24.1	+29.70	P Evans	29	302	9.66	-45.30
G Duffield	25	172	14.5	-32.66	D H-Jones	19	190	9.52	-38.50
F Lynch	24	226	10.6	-68.29	W Turner	15	119	12.6	+14.78

Weekend fixtures

(3.0 unless stated)
(a-t = all-ticket)

Football

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP
A Villa v Chelsea
Barnsley v Blackburn
Bolton v Liverpool
Derby v Arsenal
Man Utd v Sheff Wed
Newcastle v Leicester
Tottenham v Leeds
Wimbledon v Coventry
Tomorrow
Everton v Southampton (4.0)

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE
First Division
Bradford C v West Brom
Charlton v Ipswich
Huddersfield v Stoke
Norwich v Bury
Nottm Forest v Crewe
Oxford Utd v Man C (a-t)
Port Vale v Reading
QPR v Birmingham
Sheff Utd v Tranmere
Stockport v Sunderland
Wolverhampton v Middlesbrough
Second Division
Bournemouth v Brentford
Bristol C v Oldham
Burnley v Walsall
Carlisle v Wrexham
Fulham v Chesterfield
Gillingham v Millwall
Grimsby v Southend
Northampton v Bristol Rvrs
Preston v Plymouth
Watford v Blackpool
Wigan v York
Wycombe v Luton
Third Division
Barnet v Notts Co
Cambridge Utd v Torquay
Chester v Rochdale
Darlington v Hull (1.0)
Exeter v Peterborough
Hartlepool v Brighton
Lincoln v L Orient
Rotherham v Macclesfield
Scarborough v Doncaster
Shrewsbury v Mansfield
Tomorrow
Cardiff v Swansea (12.05)

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE
Premier Division
Aberdeen v Hearts
Dunfermline v Celtic
Hibernian v Dundee Utd
Rangers v Kilmarnock
St Johnstone v Motherwell
SCOTTISH LEAGUE
First Division
Airdrie v Raith
Dundee v Partick
Hamilton v Gr Morton
Stirling v St Mirren
Second Division
Forfar v Clyde
Inverness CT v Brechin
Stenhousemuir v East Fife
Stranraer v Livingston
Third Division
Berwick v Albion
Cowdenbeath v Alloa
East Stirling v Arbroath
Montrose v Dumbarton
Queen's Pk v Ross Co
Tomorrow
SCOTTISH LEAGUE CHALLENGE CUP
Final
Falkirk v Queen of South
(Fir Park, Motherwell)

FA VASE: First round Part One: Willington v Stockton; Skelmersdale Utd v W Auckland Tn; S Shields v Chadderton; E Manchester v Rossendale Utd; Tow Law Tn v St Helens Tn; Tadcaster Alb v Thackley; Prudhoe Tn v Brodsworth; Poulton Vic v Ashington; Prescot Cables v Sheffield; Murton v Rossington Main; Seaham RS v Hall Rd Rngrs; Jarrow Roofing Boldon CA v Bootle; Borrowash Vic v Northallerton; Easington Coll v Burscough; Glasshoughton Wel v Billingham Tn; Kidsgrove Ath v RTM Newcastle; Hebburn v Chester-Le-Street Tn; Armthorpe Wel v W Allotment Celtic; Billingham Syn v Eccleshill Utd; Castleton Gabriels v Marske Utd; Hatfield Main v Nantwich Tn; Peterlee Newtown v Heanor Tn; Blidworth MW v Boston Tn; Kings Hth v Wednesfield; Bridgnorth Tn v Boldmere St Michaels; Stewarts & Lloyds v Rocester; Bloxwich Tn v Rushall Olympic; Sandwell Bor v Staveley MW; Walsall Wood v Worcester Ath; Stratford Tn v Birstall Utd; Mirrlees Blackstone v Cogenhoe Utd; Banbury Utd v Oadby Tn; Arnold Tn v Stapenhill; Newcastle Tn v Pelsall Villa; Knypersley Vic v Sandiacre Tn; Barwell v Ford Spts Daventry; Hucknall Tn v Chasetown; Lye Tn v Stourport Swifts; Newport Pagnell Tn v Friar Lane OB; Flackwell Hth v Leighton Tn; Harwich & Parkeston v Tring Tn; London Colney v Brache Sparta; Braintree Tn v Bury Tn; Ely C v Wivenhoe Tn; Concord Rngrs v Gt Yarmouth Tn; Woodbridge Tn v Southend Manor; Whitton Utd v Wealdstone.
Part Two: Wootton BC v Edgware Tn; Ford Utd v Sudbury Wndrs; Norwich Utd v Welwyn Gdn C; Aveley v St Neots Tn; Stotfold v Maldon Tn; Histon v Witham Tn; Amersham Tn v Halstead Tn; Hoddesdon Tn v Bowers Utd; Fakenham Tn v Potters Bar Tn; Sudbury Tn v Bourne Tn; Milton Keynes v Gt Wakering Rvrs; Warboys Tn v Basildon Utd; Hemel Hempstead v Barkingside; Hillingdon Bor v Ware; Tiptree Utd v Sawbridgeworth Tn; Waltham Abbey v Mildenhall Tn; E Grinstead Tn v Folkestone Inv; Thatcham Tn v Reading Tn; Bedfont v Faversham Tn; Burnham v Egham Tn; Langney Spts v Farnham Tn; Sidley Utd v Brook House; Chatham Tn v Hailsham Tn; Ashford Tn v Sheppey Utd. Met Police v N Leigh; Horsham v Ramsgate; Cowes Spts v Epsom & Ewell; Tunbridge Wells v Wick; Windsor & Eton v Shoreham; Corinthian v Slade Green; Deal Tn v Godalming & Guilford; Bicester Tn v Littlehampton Tn; Abingdon Utd v Camberley Tn; Eastbourne Tn v Chipstead; Bodmin Tn v Bournemouth; Chard Tn v First Tower Utd; Chippenham Tn v Devizes Tn; Melksham Tn v Wimbourne Tn; Swindon Supermarine v Porthleven. Paulton Rvrs v Minehead; BAT Spts v Hallen; Hungerford Tn v Westbury Utd; Eastleigh v Bridport. Falmouth Tn v Bridgwater Tn. Brislington v Elmore; Bemerton Hth Harlequins v Tolton AFC; Endsleigh v Newbury AFC; Fairford Tn v Gosport Bor. Andover v Keynsham Tn. **Tomorrow:** Stewarts & Lloyds v Rocester; Endsleigh v Newbury AFC.

GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Cheltenham v Halifax. Farnborough v Welling; Hayes v Gateshead. Hednesford v Yeovil. Kidderminster v Woking; Leek Tn v Dover; Morecambe v Hereford. Northwich v Telford; Rushden & D'monds v Slough. Southport v Kettering. Stalybridge v Stevenage

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier Division Accrington Stanley v Emley. Altrincham v Hyde Utd; Barrow v Alfreton Tn; Bishop Auckland v Bamber Bridge, Colwyn Bay v Spennymoor. Frickley v Chorley; Gainsborough v Winsford Utd. Guiseley v Lancaster. Leigh RMI v Marine; Radcliffe Borough v Boston Utd; Runcorn v Blyth Spartans. **First Division** Belper Tn v Whitley Bay. Buxton v Whitby Tn. Congleton Tn v Matlock Tn; Droylsden v Witton Alb; Eastwood Tn v Gretna; Flixton v Farsley Celtic; Harrogate Tn v Trafford. Netherfield v Ashton Utd. Stocksbridge PS v Gt Harwood Tn. Workington v Bradford PA.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier Division Aylesbury v Sutton Utd; Basingstoke v Dulwich; Bishop's Stortford v Gravesend & N; Boreham Wood v Yeading; Bromley v St Albans; Carshalton v Purfleet; Dag & Red v Oxford C. Harrow Bor v Heybridge; Hitchin v Enfield, Kingstonian v Chesham, Walton & Hersham v Hendon. **First:** Berkhamsted Tn v Leyton Pennant; Grays Ath v Chertsey Tn; Leatherhead v Billericay Tn. Maidenhead Utd v Aldershot Tn. Molesey v Whyteleafe; Romford v Abingdon Tn. Staines Tn v Uxbridge; Thame Utd v Bognor Regis Tn. Wembley v Croydon; Wokingham Tn v Barton Rvrs; Worthing v Hampton. **Second:** Banstead Ath v Bracknell Tn. Barking v Bedford Tn; Chalfont St Peter v Tilbury. Cheshunt v Tooting & Mitcham. **Third:** Clapton v Wingate & Finchley; East Thurrock Utd v Corinthian Casuals; Hertford Tn v Croydon Ath; Hornchurch v Lewes. Southall v Harlow Tn.

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Premier Division Ashford Tn v Gresley Rvrs. Bath v Worcester C. Bromsgrove v Crawley Tn. Burton Alb v Atherstone; Forest Green v Hastings. Halesowen v Sittingbourne: Nuneaton v Dorchester. Rothwell Tn v Gloucester C. Salisbury v Kings Lynn; St Leonards v Merthyr; Tamworth v Cambridge C. **Midland Division** Bedworth Utd v Sutton Coldfield Tn. Blakenall v Brackley Tn; Corby Tn v Grantham Tn; Evesham Utd v Solihull Bor. Hinckley Utd v Raunds Tn; Moor Green v Stafford Rngrs. Paget Rngrs v Bilston Tn. RC Warwick v Wisbech Tn; Stourbridge v Ilkeston Tn. VS Rugby v Redditch Utd. **Southern Division** Baldock Tn v Waterlooville; Chelmsford C v Margate. Cinderford Tn v Bashley; Cirencester Tn v Erith & Belvedere. Dartford v Newport I-O-W. Fareham Tn v Clevedon Tn. Fleet Tn v Witney Tn; Newport AFC v Havant Tn; Weston-S-Mare v Trowbridge Tn. Weymouth v Fisher Ath London; Yate Tn v Tonbridge Angels.

N-W COUNTIES LEAGUE: First Division Atherton Colls v Mossley; Blackpool Rvrs v Holker Old Boys; Clitheroe v Warrington Tn; Darwen v Ramsbottom Utd; Glossop NE v Salford C; Maine Rd v Atherton LR; Vauxhall GM v Haslingden.

ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTHERN LEAGUE: First Division Bedlington Ter v Durham C; Consett v Dunston Fed; Guisborough Tn v Crook Tn; Shildon v Morpeth Tn.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier Division Denaby Utd v Ossett Tn; Liversedge v Brigg Tn; Ossett Alb v N Ferriby Utd; Pickering Tn v Hallam; Pontefract Cols v Maltby MW; Selby Tn v Curzon Ashton.

SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier Division Bideford v Odd Down; Bristol MF v Taunton Tn; Calne Tn v Tiverton Tn; Torrington v Mangotsfield Utd.

S-E COUNTIES LEAGUE (11.0): **First Division:** Charlton Ath v Portsmouth; Crystal Palace v Norwich C; Gillingham v Arsenal; Ipswich v Cambridge Utd; Leyton Orient v West Ham; Millwall v Tottenham; QPR v Fulham; Southend Utd v Watford. **Second Division:** Barnet v Wycombe; Brentford v Colchester Utd; Brighton v Bristol Rvrs; Bristol C v Bournemouth; Luton Tn v Reading; Oxford Utd v Wimbledon; Tottenham v Swindon.

PRESS & JOURNAL HIGHLAND LEAGUE: Brora Rngrs v Fraserburgh; Buckie Thistle v Clachnacuddin; Deveronvale v Cove Rngrs; Elgin C v Rothes; Forres Mech v Lossiemouth; Fort William v Wick Ac; Huntly v Nairn Co. Keith v Peterhead

LEAGUE OF WALES: Bangor C v Aberystwyth (2.0). Caernarfon Tn v Barry Tn (2.30); Cemaes Ynys Mon v Carmarthen Tn (2.30). Connah's Quay v Cwmbran (2.30); Haverfordwest v Conwy (2.30); Inter Cable-Tel v Rhyl (2.0); Newtown v Flint Tn (2.30); Rhayader Tn v Porthmadog (2.30). **Tomorrow:** Ebbw Vale v Welshpool (2.30).

IRISH LEAGUE: Premier Division Crusaders v Cliftonville, Glenavon v Portadown, Linfield v Glentoran. Omagh Tn v Ards. **First Division:** Ballyclare v Dungannon Swifts; Carrick v Distillery; Limavady Utd v Bangor; Newry v Larne

FAI NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier Division Derry C v Finn Harps (7.30). **Tomorrow:** Cork C v Bohemians (2.0); St Patricks Ath v Dundalk (3.15); UCD v Sligo Rvrs (3.15)

Tomorrow

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP QUALIFIER: Rep of Ire v Poland (Tolka Park)

FA WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE: National Division Bradford v Liverpool FC (2.0); Croydon v Tranmere Rvrs (2.0); Doncaster v Arsenal (2.0); Everton v Wembley (1.0); Millwall v Berkhamsted (2.0).

Rugby League

FIRST TEST MATCH: Great Britain v Australia (2.30, Wembley)

Tomorrow

TOUR MATCH: Leeds Stds v Queensland Stds (2.30, Headingley)

Basketball

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Birmingham v Watford (7.30). **Tomorrow:** London Towers v Leicester (5.0)

UNI-BALL TROPHY: Derby v Sheffield (7.30)

SAINSBURY'S CLASSIC COLA MEN'S NATIONAL CUP: Fourth round: Coventry v Thames Valley (7.30); Leicester v Newcastle (7.30); Stevenage v Manchester (8.0); Worthing v Crystal Palace (8.0). **Tomorrow:** Chester v Birmingham (7.30); London Leopards v Derby (5.0); Sheffield v Watford (6.0).

Ice Hockey

BENSON & HEDGES CUP: Semi-final, first leg: Cardiff v Newcastle (6.30).

THE EXPRESS CUP: Nottingham v Sheffield (7.0)

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Fife v Paisley (7.0). Lancashire v Murrayfield (6.0). **Tomorrow:** Murrayfield v Kingston (6.30).

SOUTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Slough v Telford (6.30) **Tomorrow:** Guildford v Telford (6.0).

Tomorrow

SUPERLEAGUE: Basingstoke v Cardiff (6.0); Bracknell v Sheffield (6.0); Newcastle v Manchester (6.30)

BENSON & HEDGES PLATE: Semi-final, second leg Slough v Paisley (6.30).

BRITISH NATIONAL LEAGUE: Peterborough v Lancashire (6.15).

Rugby Union

HEINEKEN CUP: Quarter-final qualifiers: Brive v Pontypridd (3.30): Cardiff v Llanelli (5.05); Leicester v Glasgow.

ALLIED DUNBAR PREMIERSHIP: One: Bath v Richmond; Ldn Irish v Newcastle. **Tomorrow:** Gloucester v Harlequins; Saracens v Bristol; Wasps v Sale.

TETLEY'S BITTER CUP: Third round: Barking v Exeter (2.30); Bedford v Staines; Blackheath v Sandal; Broadstreet v Bracknell (2.30); Camberley v Kendal (2.30); Coventry v Sheffield; Doncaster v Tynedale (2.15); Fylde v Aspatria (2.30); Havant v Rugby (2.30); Ldn Welsh v Waterloo (2.45); Lydney v Ldn Scottish; Moseley v Liverpool St Helens; N Walsham v Rosslyn Pk (2.30); Orrell v Newbury; Otley v Manchester (2.15); Rotherham v Launceston (2.15); Stourbridge v Reading (2.30); Wakefield v Morley (2.30); W Hartlepool v Cheltenham; Wharfedale v Worcester (2.30).

WELSH NATIONAL LEAGUE: First Division Blackwood v Abertillery (2.0); Caerphilly v Merthyr (2.0); Cross Keys v Bonymaen (2.0); Llandovery v Treorchy (2.0); Newbridge v Maesteg (2.0); Pontypool v Dunvant (2.0); Rumney v Aberavon (2.0); S Wales Police v UWIC (2.0, Cardiff Inst).

SRU LEAGUE TROPHY: Play-offs: Ayr v Gordonians (2.30); Boroughmuir v Melrose (2.30); Currie v Dundee HSFP (2.30); Edinburgh Acads v Stirling County (2.30); Gala v Kilmarnock (2.30); Glasgow Hawks v Kelso (2.30); Glasgow Southern v Aberdeen GSFP (2.30); Grangemouth v Selkirk (2.30); Hawick v Watsonians (2.30); Kirkcaldy v Jed-Forest (2.30); Musselburgh v Biggar (2.30); Preston Lodge v Peebles (2.30); Stewartry v Glenrothes (2.30); Stewarts Mel FP v Hillhead/Jordanhill (2.30); West of Scotland v Heriots FP (2.30).

CLUB MATCHES: Blackburn v Preston G (2.15); Nottingham v Hinckley.

Tomorrow

TOUR MATCHES: Edinburgh v Tonga (2.15, Goldenacre); Scottish Borders v New South Wales (2.0, Greenyards, Melrose).

Hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: First Division Blueharts v Hampstead (2.0); Bournville v Loughborough (2.30); Bromley v Sheffield (12.0). Brooklands v Stourport (2.0); Chelmsford v Lewes (2.15); Firebrands v Harleston (1.0); Hull v Glos C (2.0); Indian Gym v Isca (1.30); Oxford Hawks v Warrington (1.0); Oxford Univ v St Albans (11.45); Surbiton v Havant (1.0).

SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Clydesdale v Stepps; Inverleith v Kelburne; Mimtec W v Grange (1.30); Watsonians v Gordonians (2.30); Western v MIM.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL: England v South Korea (2.45; NHS, Milton Keynes).

WELSH WOMEN'S LEAGUE: Cardiff Ath v Swansea; Newport v Colwyn Bay; Penarth v Newtown; Pontypridd v UWIC. **Tomorrow:** Newport v Newtown; Penarth v Colwyn Bay; Swansea v Pontypridd; UWIC v Cardiff Ath.

Tomorrow

EHA MEN'S CUP: Third round: Blueharts v Cambs C (2.30); Bournemouth v Beckenham (2.0); Bournville v Sheffield (2.30); Bridgnorth v Ipswich (1.30); Brooklands v Peterborough Tn (2.0); Eastcote v Bromley (2.0); Hampstead v Glos C (12.30); Hampton v Harrogate (2.0); Harleston M v Neston (1.30); Havant v Surbiton (1.30; Havant Coll); Isca v Fareham (1.0); Norton v Warrington (12.15); Old Cranleighans v City of Ports (1.30); Old Georgians v St Albans (2.0); Ramgarhia (Leeds) v Spalding (1.10); Robinsons v Chelmsford (1.0); Stourport v De Montfort Univ (12.30); Trojans v Chichester (12.30); W Herts v Oxford Hawks (1.15); Winchester v High Wycombe (12.30).

EHA WOMEN'S CUP: Second round: Basingstoke v E Grinstead; Blackburn v CB (IOM); Bognor v Farnborough; Burnt Ash v Wallington. Charnwood v W Brom; Crosby v York; Dereham v Peterboro; Didsbury G v Disley; Epsom v Teddington; Exmouth v Bournemouth; Glos C v Wootton Bassett; Gravesend v Sunbury; Guernsey v Southampton; Hampstead v Letchworth; Horncastle v Crimson R; Hounslow v Broxbourne; Ipswich ES v Harleston; Kettering v Blossomfield; Leyland M v Roseberry; Lillington v Northampton; Maidenhead v Eastcote; Milton Keynes v Abingdon; Nth Staffs v Bridgnorth; Norwich Union v St Ives; Redbridge v Berkhamsted; Redditch v Stratford; Redhill v Liverpool; Sheffield v Walton; Shipston v Towcestrians; Slazenger v Tynedale; Southgate v St Albans; Swindon v Havant; T Vale v Sidmouth; Tulse Hill v BBHC; WGC v Bedford; W Herts v Basildon; Whitley Bay v Kirkby Stephen; Winchester v Horsham; Winchmore Hill v Tunbridge W; Yale v Exeter.

مكنا من الاصل

Guardian Saturday November
brief
macher loses
'd nomination
fit in six weeks
an undergoes surgery
d hang in for bronze

Rugby League: First Test

Do it my way ... Andy Goodway puts over his point of view to the St Helens three-quarters Alan Hunte and Paul Newlove during a break in training for today's match at Wembley PHOTOGRAPH: VICTORIA MATTHEWS

Goulding the wild card for Britain

Andy Wilson

WHATEVER the result of the first Super League international between Great Britain and Australia at Wembley today, the biggest winners will be officials of the Australian Rugby League, *sniggering back in* Sydney, and the biggest loser the game itself.

It is two years, almost to the day, since the ARL, which has been *defending itself against* the Rupert Murdoch-backed Super League since the latter's launch in Australia early in 1995, won the Centenary World Cup by beating England in the final at Wembley in front of a crowd of 66,540. Super League officials would be delighted if today's game attracted two-thirds as many.

Though refusing to release details of ticket sales yesterday, RFL spokesmen insisted that they had never budgeted for a crowd of more than 40,000. Indeed if, as inside sources suggest, they have sold 35,000 tickets for Wembley and almost as many for the second Test at Old Trafford next Saturday, it would be a remarkable tribute to the game's appeal — given the disastrous year that Super *League has endured.*

Rugby league fans, their morale battered by British teams' humiliation in this summer's World Club Champi*onship, know that this is not a* true Test series, as the opposition is drawn from only one of Australia's two domestic competitions. And those who paid for Wembley *tickets* then saw 6,000 given away by the Sun.

Today's game still promises to be a fascinating contest, even though Australia have *been deprived of leading play*ers from the ARL such as Brad Fittler, Steve Menzies and the Johns brothers and, moreover, some of Super League's biggest names — Allan Langer, Ricky Stuart and Steve Renouf — are missing because of injury.

The visitors can still call on Laurie *Daley, fresh from his* best domestic season, at standoff, a three-quarter line including the established internationals Brett Mullins, Wendell Sailor and Andrew Ettingshausen, and youngsters such as *the scrum-half Craig* Gower and the centre Ryan Girdler who were outstanding in the World Club Championship.

In contrast, injuries to Tony Smith, Shaun Edwards, Denis Betts, Keiron Cunningham and Iestyn Harris, and Gary Connolly's contract with the ARL, have left the new Great Britain coaching team of Andy Goodway and Shaun McRae desperately short of options.

But the Bradford prop Brian McDermott is expected to play despite the death of his father on Wednesday, and the coaches have come up with an intriguing half-back combination in Andy Farrell and Bobbie *Goulding*, chalk and cheese off the pitch but both potential match-winners.

Even with a full team Australia have lost the first Test at *Wembley* on each of their last two tours, in front of 54,569 and 57,034, and the ARL players were defeated by England in the opening game of the 1995 World Cup. But today the atmosphere may not be as daunting.

"*The circumstances are go*ing to be different from previous games," said their coach John Lang, "but I would rather win in front of 30,000 than lose in front of 60,000."

Aside from winners and losers, the empty seats should ram home the one-competition message to the warring *factions* in Australia.

Farrell ... match-winner

Wembley teams

Great Britain subs	Australia subs	Referee
14 Paul Atcheson	14 Ken Nagas	Phil Houston (New Zealand)
15 Dean Sampson	15 Brett Kimmorley	Wembley Stadium, today 2.30pm, live on Sky Sports 1
16 Adrian Morley	16 Robbie Kearns	
17 Steve McNamara	17 Craig Greenhill	

Relaxed Mr Badway keen to come good

Andy Wilson on the unlikely transformation of Andy Goodway from tearaway player to the respected coach out to tame Australia

IMAGINE Paul Gascoigne as England's football coach or Phil Tufnell in charge of the cricketers. Andy Goodway's transformation from tearaway forward to Great Britain coach for today's first Super League Test against Australia at Wembley is on that unlikely level.

He was happy to be known in the all-conquering Wigan dressing room of the late Eighties as "BA" — short for Bad *Attitude — and stories of* his misbehaviour abound. Brian Gartland, who initially signed him for Oldham, remembers that the first time *he saw him playing, for the* Castleford amateur team Redhill against Saddleworth, Goodway was sent off.

Goodway's disciplinary re*cord remained poor in his* early professional days, culminating in an eight-match ban after his dismissal at Hull Kingston Rovers — six for a *dangerous high tackle and* two for inciting the crowd. Off the field there were tales of him stealing the turkey from a Christmas raffle and swinging from *the goalposts* to mock a new coach.

Even after he moved to Wigan as the only Great Britain forward capable of match*ing the Australians* on the 1984 Lions tour, Maurice Lindsay and his fellow directors quickly dubbed him Mr Badway for his kneejerk defiance of authority. Yet Lindsay, heavily influenced by his former Wigan lieutenant John Monie, is now one of the leading advocates of Goodway the coach.

It was Monie who surprised Lindsay and everyone else at Central Park by inviting Goodway to coach the under-19 Academy team during a lengthy recovery from a broken arm. Monie was so impressed that he tried to take Goodway with him to the Auckland Warriors. *Lindsay* did not forget and insisted that Goodway was appointed to take charge of Paris St-Germain midway through last season, shortly after being sacked by Oldham. Under Goodway, Paris avoided relegation from *Super League and condemned* Oldham to liquidation.

> Off the field there were tales of stealing a turkey and swinging from the goalposts

Afforded the luxury of automatic respect for his reputation as one of the toughest *and best British forwards of* the past two decades, Goodway is a players' coach. The Great Britain squad have been *struck* by the contrast between his relaxed approach and that of the more intense Phil Larder.

"There is no point in getting worked up," said Goodway. "It's my *job* to keep the players relaxed about the job they have to do. We'll do what we have to do to give ourselves the best chance when the time is right."

His sheer bloody-mindedness, however, has not made life easy for Rugby Football League officials attempting to boost ticket *sales for today's* game. He refused to confirm his team until the last possible moment and was reluctant to provide any media access after Monday's final press day.

"I'm amazed the British officials have let him get away with it," said his Australia counterpart John Lang, who released his line-up on Tuesday morning.

In that respect it is a good job that the media-friendly Shaun McRae was appointed as Goodway's assistant. McRae, *coach of St Helens for* the past two years, was also a surprising choice, but for a different reason: he is Australian and worked closely with their *players on the 1990 and* 1994 Kangaroo tours.

He does not regard that as any problem. "I didn't see any Aussies beating down my *door to give me a job,*" he said. And Lang admitted: "We can't complain when there is an Englishman in charge of our soccer team."

Great Britain *have not en*joyed the easiest preparation for the Test series, having lost several key players through injury. Nor have Australia, *whose resources were halved* anyway by their decision to select purely from the Super League competition. But their domination of the World Club Championship this year was an indication of the formidable strength in depth of the Australian game.

Great Britain's best chance *of a win today and, if they do* manage a third consecutive victory at Wembley, of avoiding the traditional Australian comeback lies in their odd *coaching couple.*

Cricket

Officials warn against soaring wages

David Hopps

ENGLISH cricket's precarious future was underlined yesterday as leading officials and players' representatives united in warning against a wages explosion which they fear would undermine attempts to revitalise the game.

Tim Lamb, chief executive of the England and Wales Cricket Board, and David Graveney, who as well as being chairman of selectors acts as general secretary of the Professional Cricketers' Association, urged caution *as the* October contracts deadline expired.

Growing demands for a more competitive county system — *providing* a more successful England side — allied to a substantial rise in television money are threatening to fuel an unprecedented *increase in sal*aries for the game's leading professionals.

The Derbyshire batsman Chris Adams can contemplate a near doubling in salary if his appeal to the England and Wales Cricket Board to be allowed to leave the county on November 11 is successful.

Overseas players are also attracting record offers, with Australia's leg-spinner Shane Warne having reportedly considered a package close to £150,000 before he rejected overtures from Sussex, Northamptonshire and Lancashire.

Agents are predicting that leading English players will *soon command* six-figure county salaries and insist that such improved rewards are bound to persuade talented young players that cricket offers them a worthwhile career.

Many pragmatists fear, however, that spiralling costs will debilitate development plans outlined in the England Cricket Board's blueprint, Raising The Standard, which concluded that a major restructuring was essential in schools, clubs and at first-class level to safeguard the future of a sport still organised on antiquated lines.

Lamb urged: "We have an *overriding responsibility* not to pay the current crop of cricketers more than the game can afford. Those of us at the centre of the game *should be urging restraint.* To pay over-inflated sums would be irresponsible.

"But we do understand that it is important to pay *the players fair levels of* remuneration, which is why we have enhanced the pension arrangements and sit down every year to dis*cuss the minimum wage.*"

From today, counties can approach out-of-contract players whom they have been privately wooing for months, but cricket's unease runs much deeper than that.

The voluntary restriction on transfers, with counties limited to two contested signings in a five-year period, is under increasing strain. Aversion to an open-transfer system was a major reason why counties rejected proposals in September for a two-division County Championship but, as old player loy*alties break down, such a* development may prove unstoppable.

Graveney proved successful a year ago in securing a *higher minimum* wage; newly capped county players now earn close to £20,000. But yesterday he too reacted cautiously.

"*We realise there are* comparisons with other sports if we start to over-stretch ourselves. It threatens the future of the game at the lower end."

Lillee pitches in on Test dispute

DENNIS LILLEE, the former Australia and Western *Australia fast bowler*, has condemned the Perth pitch planned for the second Test against New Zealand next month, saying the surface should be dug up.

The Western Australian *Cricket Association has* promised to produce a Test-quality pitch, but the New Zealand coach Steve Rixon described the present wicket as "substandard, nearly to the degree where you could get hurt".

Lillee stepped into the row when Jamie Siddons, the South Australia captain, branded the pitch "horrendous". Lillee said: "Standards have fallen."

Motor Racing

Rough-house tactics will bring tragedy, says Stewart

Alan Henry

JACKIE STEWART warned yesterday that grand prix racing risks an accident of horrific proportions unless *the governing* body takes a hard line against tactics such as Michael Schumacher's in last Sunday's European Grand Prix.

"It will end in tears, there will be a massive accident," he *said* at Silverstone, where he was reliving memories with a test drive in one of his Stewart-Ford team's cars. "There was a collision in Japan a few weeks ago between an F3 car and a pace car and it ended up *with the* racing car impaled on a *bridge over the* track, which gives you some idea of the dynamics involved with a racing car on the move."

Stewart said that the incident in which Schumacher, in a Ferrari, tried to push Jacques *Villeneuve's Williams* off the Jerez circuit was symp*tomatic* of a general problem.

"They were very lucky not *to* have interlocked wheels because then we could easily have had a car upside-down. It could have ended with a big accident; as it was it was just *an embarrassment.*

"I don't think this sort of behaviour is ethical at all; I don't think the governing body can permit it. It will be very interesting *to see what happens* when Schumacher appears in front of the FIA world council on November 11.

"I don't think these sort of tactics would have been used by star drivers in the past such as Jim Clark, Juan Manuel Fangio or Stirling Moss. Behaviour like that demonstrated by Schumacher doesn't just need to be discouraged, it needs to be eliminated. We are dealing with something that is a great deal more dangerous than soccer, for example."

During *his* career, which ended with retirement in 1973 *after* winning three world championships and 27 of his 99 grands prix, Stewart was a driving force for improved safety standards in international motor racing.

Results

Football

WORLD CUP QUALIFYING: Asian Zone, *second round:* Group A: China 2, Qatar 3; Iran 0, Kuwait 0. **Standings:** 1, Iran (P7, Pts12); 2, Saudi Arabia (6–10); 3, Kuwait (7–8); 4, China (6–7); 5, Qatar (6–7). **Remaining matches: Nov 6:** Saudi Arabia v China. **Nov 7:** Qatar v Iran. **Nov 12:** China v Kuwait; Qatar v Saudi Arabia.

Golf

VOLVO MASTERS (Montecastillo, Jerez, Sp): **Second round** (GB/Ire unless stated): **132** L Westwood 65, 67; P Sjoland (Swe) 64, 68. **133** D Clarke 69, 64; J M *Olazabal (Sp) 66, 67; M McNulty (Zim)* 64, 69. **134** C Rocca (It) 69, 65; M Long (NZ) 65, 69; P-U Johansson (Swe) 63, 71. **135** P Lawrie 70, 65; R Karlsson (Swe) 68, 67. **136** I Garrido (Sp) 70, 66; P Mitchell 70, 66; T Bjorn (Den) 70, 66; P Broadhurst 70, 66; S Ames (Trin) 67, 69; I Woosnam 67, 69; *B Langer (Ger) 66, 70; P Harrington 66, 70;* C Montgomerie 65, 71. **137** D Carter 69, 68; M James 68, 69; J Coceres (Arg) 68, 69; P O'Malley (Aus) 68, 69. **138** D Howell 70, 68; Zhang Lian-wei (China) 69, 69; A Coltart 68, 70. **139** N Fasth (Swe) 71, 68; R Allenby (Aus) 71, 68; A Forsbrand (Swe) 70, 69; R Rafferty 68, 71; T Gogele (Ger) 65, 74. **140** J Haeggman (Swe) 72, 68; E Romero (Arg) 71, 69; P Baker 71, 69; C Watts 70, 70; P Price 69, 71. **141** R Goosen (SA) 75, 66; P McGinley 74, 67; G Turner (NZ) 72, 69; J Sandelin (Swe) 71, 70; B *Davis 70, 71; D Gilford 68, 73.* **142** R Green (Aus) 69, 73. **143** S Torrance 75, 68; D Edlund (Swe) 75, 68; S Henderson 73, 70; *S Ballesteros (Sp)* 72, 71; M Roe 70, 73. **144** W Westner (SA) 73, 71; M A Martin (Sp) 72, 72; A Cabrera (Arg) 72, 72; P Lonard (Aus) 72, 72; G Brand Jnr 72, 72; D Chopra (Swe) 71, 73; R Chapman 66, 78. **145** R McFarlane 72, 73; T Johnstone (Zim) 71, 74; M A Jimenez (Sp) 71, 74. **146** R Russell 71, 75. **147** R Claydon 74, 73; S Struver (Ger) 72, 75. **148** C Whitelaw (SA) 76, 72; A Cejka (Ger) 72, 76. **149** M Harwood (Aus) 76, 73; Cheng Jun (China) 72, 77. **151** M Jonzon (Swe) 74, 77.

TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP (Houston, Texas): **First-round leaders** (US unless stated): **66** J Parnevik (Swe); D Duval; J Furyk. **67** B Faxon. **68** B Glasson; T Tolles; M O'Meara; D Love; S Hoch. **69** A Magee; S McCarron; M Calcavecchia; P Mickelson; T Woods. **70** P Stankowski; F *Nobilo (NZ); V Singh (Fiji); N Price (Zim);* S Elkington (Aus); J Leonard. **71** L Janzen; E Els (SA). **72** S Jones; T Lehman; L Roberts. **73** S Cink; J Cook; S Appleby (Aus); G Norman (Aus) **78** J Maggert.

Tennis

ATP PARIS INDOOR OPEN: Quarter-finals: Y Kafelnikov (Rus) bt G Rusedski (GB) 6–4, 3–6, 6–3; **J Bjorkman** (Swe) bt R Krajicek (Neth) 6–4, 0–1 ret; **P Sampras** (US) bt T Muster (Aut) 6–1, 4–6, 6–2.

LTA CHALLENGER (Edinburgh): **Quarter-finals:** *P Wartusch (Aus)* bt E Zardo (Switz) 7–6, 7–5; **B Schwartz** (Aus) bt M Kochta (Ger) 5–7, 6–1, 6–2; **S [illegible]** (Yug) bt S Meier (Ger) 6–1, 6–1; **L Andretto** (Fr) bt S Smith (GB) 7–5, 7–5.

KREMLIN CUP WOMEN'S TOURNAMENT (Moscow): **Quarter-finals:** J Novotna (Cz) bt V Williams (US) 7–5, 6–4; **Ai Sugiyama** (Japan) bt A Sanchez-Vicario (Sp) 6–1, 7–6; **D van Roost** (Bel) bt I Spirlea (Rom) 6–2, 6–4; **C Martinez** (Sp) bt S Testud (Fr) 2–6, 6–1, 6–4.

GIROBANK TOUR (Redbridge): **Men: Quarter-finals:** N Gould (Avon) bt J Fox (Lincs) 6–4, 6–2; **T Spinks** (Norfolk) bt P Hand (Berks) 7–6, 7–5; **N West** (Hampshire) bt *P Robinson* (Northants) 6–2, 1–0 ret; **A Parmar** (Herts) bt I Bates (Hampshire) 6–2, 6–3. **Semi-finals:** Spinks bt Gould 6–0, 7–6; **West** bt Parmar 7–6, 6–4. **Women: Quarter-finals:** A Wainwright (Essex) bt H Reesby (Notts) 6–3, 6–4; **J Dawson** (Sussex) bt L Parkins (Durham and Cleveland) 6–3, 6–7, 6–2; **E Jelfs** (Oxfordshire) bt Z Golopencza (Hun) 6–1, 6–4; **J Lutrova** (Rus) bt E Eriova (Cz) 6–2, 6–3. **Semi-finals:** Wainwright bt Dawson 6–2, 6–2; **Jelfs** bt Lutrova 6–4, 6–2.

Cricket

SHEFFIELD SHIELD: First day: Melbourne: Queensland 95-3 (M Hayden 53; D Saker 1–19) v Victoria. **Hobart:** Tasmania v Western Australia (play abandoned — rain).

TOUR MATCH: Newcastle, Aus: First day: New South Wales 281-3 (M Slater 135no, M Bevan 48no) v New Zealand.

Chess

WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP (Lucerne): **Round Six:** United States 2, Armenia 2; Ukraine 1, Russia 3; England 2½ (Short ½, Sadler ½, Speelman 1, Nunn ½), Kazakhstan 1½; Croatia 2½, Switzerland 1½; Georgia 1, Cuba 3. **Leaders:** United States 15, Russia 14½, England 14, Armenia 13.

Ice Hockey

NHL: Boston 0, Anaheim 3; Florida 2, Ottawa 5; New Jersey 8, Vancouver 1; NY Islanders 5, Ny Rangers 3; St Louis 2, Colorado 2; Calgary 4, Phoenix 2.

Motor Sport

AUSTRALIAN RALLY: Leading positions (after the second day): 1, C McRae (GB) *Subaru 1hr 32min 26sec;* 2, *R Burns* (GB) Mitsubishi 1:32.35; 3, D Auriol (Fr) Toyota 1:32.57; 4, C Sainz (Sp) Ford 1:33.17; 5, K Eriksson (Swe) Subaru 1.33.44; 6, T Makinen (Fin) Mitsubishi 1:34.07; 7, N Bates (Aus) Toyota 1:34.58; 8, P Bourne (NZ) Subaru 1:35.01.

Squash

PAKISTAN OPEN (Karachi): **Final:** Jansher Khan (Pak) bt A Hill (Aus) 15–11, 15–7, 15–6.

● *Sam Smith, the British No. 1,* was beaten 7–5, 7–5 by Laurence Andretto from France in the quarter-finals of tennis's Ladies' Challenger in Edinburgh yesterday. Smith, the only second-round British survivor, saved one match point to level the score at 5–5 but her opponent held her next serve and broke Smith without the loss of a point to win in 95 minutes.

● *Super* League clubs want an official register of approved rugby league players' agents. Chris Caisley, chairman of Bradford Bulls and Rugby League Europe, the sport's marketing arm, said: "There have been several instances recently of unprofessional conduct on the part of agents. It was approved unanimously at a Super League meeting that steps should be taken for one or two of those agents not to have any future dealings with clubs.

"We will be inviting the Professional Players' Association for talks and plan to *establish a register of approved agents.* We appreciate players need representation but not all our agents are working in the best interests of the game or players."

Hockey

Simons set to step up but Bhatti left on the sidelines

Pat Rowley

ADRIAN SIMONS *of* Southgate and Mahmood Bhatti of East Grinstead have been the outstanding performers in the early matches of the National League season. While Simons has raced into the England reckoning, Bhatti remains on the fringe of England selection as he has *done for years.*

Simons, England's top scorer in the Junior World Cup, is now in Cairo with the England squad and is certain to make his senior debut against Egypt while Bhatti is *left twiddling his thumbs at* home.

Bhatti has repeatedly been called up for national team training since winning his first two caps four years ago. Time after time he has been disappointed, always being nominated as first reserve, a *mystery to anyone who saw* his performances against Southgate and Teddington last weekend.

The quality of selection, both for England and Great Britain teams, has been a bone of contention for years. The *team* originally selected for Cairo included far too many has-beens. Simons and two of his Junior World Cup team-mates, Garrard and Kochar, were *added to the squad* only when the projected Cairo tournament fell though and the trip became largely a training exercise, with four *Tests against Egypt and two* friendly matches, one against a President's XI tomorrow.

While England's men prepare for matches against a lowly-ranked team, England's women will be attempting at *Milton Keynes today to gain a* repeat victory over South Korea, the second ranked women's team in the world, following their splendid 4–2 success on Thursday.

Like the men, England *women's selections still* raise a few eyebrows but at least there have been changes since England squeezed into next year's World Cup only at the last gasp.

Football

Pleat busy thinking things through

Roy Collins on the Hillsborough club's manager with an appointment at Old Trafford today

Managing to get by . . . 'This job consumes you completely, and I mean completely,' says David Pleat, who today takes his struggling Wednesday side to Manchester United TOM JENKINS

SO MANY different fitness trainers, motivators, sports psychologists and the like have passed through Hillsborough in recent weeks that local residents would not be surprised to discover that the old stadium has been turned over to an alternative-medicine group.

Nor would it be much of a shock to discover that Fergie's psychic — the Duchess not the Manchester United manager — goes there twice a week to get the players to huddle under little blue awnings; though, given the problems they have after pulling blue shirts over their heads, maybe not.

A club near the bottom of the Premiership will try anything that might act as a levitational force. Thus the manager David Pleat supplements all this outside help with his own brand of amateur psychology, which, after 20-odd years listening to footballers' whinges about problems real and imagined, is a skill almost worthy of letters after his name.

Pleat has been asking his struggling players whether they are happy with their homes, whether their wives are happy with the wallpaper, whether the budgie has been sick. There is only so much of this minutiae an intelligent man can take, which is why Pleat admits: "To be honest you feel like saying, 'Fuck it, go away and play golf, take your wives shopping or whatever you want to do and come back on Saturday and play'.

"You know you can't, of course. So you talk to the players, ask about their missus. Patrick Blondeau, for instance, has been stuck in a hotel for 12 weeks and his wife is not happy about it. Those who have seen him play would doubt him but that situation can only get better and his play with it.

"You become a coach, a manager, a doctor, a psychologist, a bit of everything. And you have to know who you can scream at and who you have to nurse through situations like these. The trouble with footballers is that it is not easy for them to talk intelligently about their problems, to analyse themselves not on a blame basis but a shame basis: why don't you do this or do that?"

The danger of dabbling in amateur psychology is that before long you feel a compulsion to jump on to the couch yourself. In Pleat's case you feel that he permanently lives there, with only his own thoughts and the voices of former colleagues rattling around his head to help him. "Jimmy Bloomfield said that the most important thing is to know what's important."

As sage-like as this sounds, one cannot quite understand its use when your team are in dire trouble and supporters and directors are on your back. Far more practical is the advice from Harry Haslam, to count to 10 slowly. Except that one cannot imagine Pleat getting past two before being interrupted by another thought.

His latest hope is that today's sighting of Old Trafford will stir something in his underperformers, like the patients in the film Awakenings. "The only thing to fear is fear," he says before repeating another mantra: "The players should enjoy a stage like Old Trafford. They should enjoy the Premiership; some players would give their right arms to play in it."

In Wednesday's position the players might do well to remember that United scored seven at home last Saturday against the hapless Barnsley.

Pleat is such an honest and likeable man that he questions his own abilities as much as the players', but says: "I can coach as well as anyone in the country. Last year we maximised the ability of every player in the team. This season we have had massive injuries; not one player is ever-present. And the players who have come in have not quite coped."

Any general could tell Pleat that losing armies always have an overcrowded casualty unit, and he admits that his team need to find a collective will and inner motivation. He defends, too, his decision to sell the striker David Hirst, saying: "You have to keep trading."

In a sport which axes managers with the casualness of Jacobites, Pleat has felt the guillotine only once, when Leicester removed him in January 1991. But he knows that Wednesday's directors will not be afraid to sharpen the blade and he second-guesses their reactions to results.

"Can you imagine the boardroom when we lost 5-2 at Derby after being 2-1 up? The end of the world is nigh. But directors are praying a manager will pull through because change will cost them and they have to start all over again, not knowing whether it will turn out any better.

"That Derby defeat was Black Wednesday but we got over that. We drew at Villa, beat Everton, lost narrowly to Spurs. Then we ballsed it up against Crystal Palace last Saturday." He bemused reporters after that match by saying: "I feel very calm because something has happened this week which reminded me that football is not everything." Questioned further, he walked out.

He says: "It's just that sometimes things happen to reroute your mind and keep things in perspective. It could be someone having their leg off or having a stroke. Even the death of Princess Diana, a beautiful life taken away, which reminds you of football's place. You need reminding and you musn't panic. What will be, will be."

You find yourself seriously worrying about a manager who says that there is no pleasure in winning any more because you have to come in on Monday and sort out trivial issues. "There are so many outside influences that piss you off and annoy you. This job consumes you completely, and I mean completely."

When you ask whether football management is an impossible job he pleads the fifth amendment. "There is no rest" is all he will say, though you hesitate to tell him to lie down in case the advice is misunderstood.

Premiership preview

Spotlight on Dalglish and jitters all round

Ian Ross

SPARE a thought for Kenny Dalglish this morning. A more level-headed and dedicated figure than the Newcastle United manager it really is difficult to imagine, and yet, at the precise moment that his career has been enveloped by the calm and serenity he has long craved, he again seems destined to be disturbed by his own gloriously engineered reputation.

Dalglish the proven winner may have finally won over the more suspicious among the Toon Army but, inevitably, Dalglish the proven winner remains a most desirable commodity in a sport that at times is prone to lovingly embracing losers.

At a point in proceedings when he is manfully attempting to steer the good and Shearer-less ship Geordie through choppy seas, Dalglish is being courted by a variety of clubs who covet his style, his professionalism and above all else his legendary golden touch. The list, it would seem, is now endless. Rangers, Benfica and even his former club Liverpool.

Newcastle play host to Leicester City this afternoon with the Danish international Jon Dahl Tomasson set to start ahead of the Georgian international Temuri Ketsbaia, even though the 20-year-old Tomasson has yet to hit the target. But as the speculation about Dalglish's long-term future continues to mount, there will be as much attention focused on the bonding — or perhaps lack of it — between manager and supporter as on an isolated game which can boast no great history.

In truth, the Premiership will be awash with worried managers today as the campaign moves from puberty to adolescence and as Black November, the traditional sacking month, opens.

Liverpool's Roy Evans is likely to last a good deal longer than several of his contemporaries at less patient clubs, but even so a trip to Bolton Wanderers looks more like a possible pitfall than an opportunity to launch any form of meaningful revival.

Liverpool's cause may be helped, though, by the absence of Bolton's Gerry Taggart, who begins a five-match suspension.

Arsenal's title credentials will look all the healthier to even the most devout critic if they can emerge intact from a three-game spell without the suspended Dennis Bergkamp, who begins his period of isolation today while his teammates dispute the points with Derby County at Pride Park.

Marc Overmars may well return after injury for the Gunners but Derby will again lack three key members of their foreign legion, Stefano Eranio, Igor Stimac and Robbie van der Laan.

Darren "Sicknote" Anderton may make a rare public appearance at White Hart Lane today when Tottenham Hotspur play host to a now resilient Leeds United. Anderton, along with Steffen Iversen and John Scales, came through a midweek reserve game and may well return, so rendering legless the Tottenham manager Gerry Francis's weekly argument that all will be well with his world once the sick have been restored to health.

Scottish preview

No rest for retiring Smith

Patrick Glenn

WALTER SMITH may be working his notice at Rangers, but that has not relieved his anxiety over a defence which has been about as watertight as a colander.

Despite the apparent weakness of today's opponents at Ibrox, Kilmarnock, Smith will drop Gordan Petric from the side that lost to Dundee United last week and restore the fit-again Sergio Porrini to the heart of the defence beside Richard Gough and Joachim Bjorklund.

They are unlikely to be over-taxed by a Kilmarnock side who are the least prolific scorers in the Premier Division with only three goals from five away matches, and 10 in total. But somehow Smith has to restore their old sense of invincibility before next Saturday's match against Celtic, the first Old Firm collision of the season.

"I don't think we've played that badly," said Smith, "but we have to rid ourselves of the fault of losing goals rather easily."

Smith revealed that midfielder Jonas Thern has also recovered from injury but that the Swede is likely to have to settle for a place on the substitutes' bench.

"It may be a week or two before he is ready for full first-team duty," added the manager.

Smith is convinced that his players will not be affected by his decision to quit at the end of the season. "They're used to managers coming and going, although maybe not in this manner," he said. "Usually, it's a bit more sudden.

"But the league championship has always been their motivation. There's no reason why my decision should make them any more or less determined."

Celtic travel to Dunfermline as league leaders, but only on goal difference from Hearts, with Rangers one point behind in third. Forwards Darren Jackson and Tommy Johnson are excluded, although both are fit and Johnson scored four goals in two reserve matches in midweek. Coach Wim Jansen said: "The players may be impatient, but I am not. They will be playing for the reserves again on Tuesday and we will go to Dunfermline with the same group."

Johnson wins go-ahead for Doncaster takeover bid

THE controversial businessman Anton Johnson was yesterday granted permission to continue his attempt at a £2 million takeover of ailing Doncaster.

The former Rotherham owner, part of a consortium attempting to take control of Doncaster, was charged with breaching Football League regulations in 1984.

The League yesterday stated that he was neither banned nor suspended from the sport but said that the charges could be reintroduced should he step out of line.

"In 1984 there were allegations about Mr Johnson's involvement in more than one club and he was due to face charges concerning breaches of regulations but he went out of football and the charges were not activated," explained Dennis Signy, the League's PR consultant.

"The charges are still outstanding, and if Mr Johnson becomes involved in football again, the League will look at the situation."

Tranmere Rovers have signed the midfielder Mickey Mellon, 25, from second division Blackpool for a fee of £300,000 while Bradford City have secured Middlesbrough goalkeeper Gary Walsh, 29, who had been on loan, for £500,000.

Bradford's £500,000 bid for Bolton Wanderers' Scottish international striker John McGinlay has been rejected. The 33-year-old has not been a first-team regular this season but manager Colin Todd said: "John is not for sale."

Outstanding displays for Everton have earned Danny Cadamarteri a call-up to the England Under-18 squad to face Russia in a Uefa preliminary round match at Gresty Road on Friday week.

Fulham wall falls

Football Diary

Martin Thorpe

FIRST there was the Great Wall of China, then there was the Berlin Wall. Now there is the missing wall of Fulham.

Having been thrown out of their supporters bar to make way for the upwardly-mobile club's sponsors, parched fans petitioned the board for alternative drinking facilities.

Plans to build a new bar under the Hammersmith End at Craven Cottage were vetoed by the local council so the club came up with the idea of dividing the old supporters' bar between fans and sponsors.

Three weeks ago up went a sound-proof partition wall. However, the club were soon banging their head against it. Enter the council once again. "You can't have that there," they said, and a week later the wall had to be knocked down.

Now a wooden trellis divides the "haves" from the "have mores" and the two social groups mix more than amicably.

A clear case of undivide and conquer.

DESPITE Eddie Ashby's jail sentence, Australia's football authorities apparently can see nothing wrong with their coach's relationship to a convict.

THE anti-parliamentarians of Newcastle will have to rely on explosive shots rather than fireworks to celebrate Guy Fawkes Night next Wednesday. The local council has officially moved Bonfire Night to November 6 to avoid a clash with United's Champions League game against PSV Eindhoven.

All six of the city's official bonfires will now take place on the Thursday, 24 hours after Kenny Dalglish's team try to put a rocket up the Dutch.

IT IS not often that the Diary investigative team has an exposé. But we have one today. We can reveal that no sooner does the FA issue a clampdown on players betting on football than two of Anfield's stars are caught doing just that. Jason McAteer and Phil Babb recently had a bet on who could hold out longest without speaking to the press. Presumably McAteer is about to cough up given that he was quoted in yesterday's Sun under the headline "Kop smears are tearing me apart".

APPARENTLY, the FA's ruling on gambling is already having an affect — Villa have dropped out of the race to sign Gazza.

ALL football fans are hungry for success, but Stoke's mascot in the game against Sunderland possessed some very strange tastes. According to the match programme, nine-year-old Matthew Toft "enjoys football, reading and eating his favourite Stoke player" (spotted by Dave Norcott of Newcastle).

AH, Peter Swales. So despised. Under his chairmanship Manchester City could finish no higher than fifth in the last two seasons of the old First Division. Ah, Francis Lee, City's saviour. Under his chairmanship City are the fifth best team again — in Greater Manchester (behind United, Bolton, Stockport and Bury).

SO NOW we know why Fabrizio Ravanelli left England. As his agent Gianni Paladini says: "Ravanelli is getting more money at Marseille than he did at Middlesbrough and he has a house on the beach with a swimming pool."

IN THE 1970s Monty Python footballer interview sketch, the one in which everyone calls everyone else Brian, the parody of an interviewer, played by Eric Idle, reports from the world's most unlikely venue: "The Stadium of Light, Jarrow". Freaky or what? (remembered by Harry Bovis of London).

LOOKS like a freezing winter ahead for South Yorkshire. It is already -20 in Huddersfield, -25 in Doncaster and -26 in Barnsley.

STRANGE that the referee Mike Reed objected to John Hartson calling him a "shit-house". How many refs offer a comparable source of pleasure and satisfaction?

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Comeback time . . . Jackson on his match return against Ross County this week

Reflection time . . . 'Maybe it's psychological, but I've never felt fitter,' says Darren Jackson

PHOTOGRAPHS: MURDO MACLEOD

Lawrence Donegan talks to Celtic's Darren Jackson about his remarkable recovery from a brain operation

The Braveheart of Parkhead

AS HEADACHES go, the one that Darren Jackson awoke with on the morning of August 26 was in the two-paracetamol class, barely enough to scratch the inner peace that came from having a sporting life which sat comfortably in the realms of "schoolboy fantasy".

He was 31 years old, fit, wealthy, good-looking (if you like your Scotsmen to look like they've just beamed in from the fashion runways of Milan) and a Scottish international footballer. That night he was due to play in a Uefa Cup tie for Celtic against the Austrian side FC Tirol in front of 50,000 fans at the magnificent sporting cathedral that is the revamped Parkhead. Life was sweet for Darren Jackson when he woke up, except for a damn headache which went on and on and on . . .

"It started off as a dull pain. I thought it would go away but it just got worse. Something told me I shouldn't play and I pulled out about an hour before the kick-off," he recalled yesterday, sitting in Parkhead's away dug-out.

Jackson watched from high in the main stand as his Celtic team-mates hammered Tirol 6-3, his elation tempered by the dull throb in his head and a sense of foreboding that had spread through his body like a forest fire. He began to expect the worst and he wasn't disappointed.

Celtic's club doctor Jack Mulhern took him to hospital next morning for a brain scan. "I got a phone call later that night to go back in for another scan, the doctors had found there was something wrong. After the second scan, Jock Brown [Celtic's general manager] told me that I needed a brain operation. I thought that was it, my career was over."

The scan found that Jackson was suffering from hydrocephalus, a congenital disorder caused when the normal flow of spinal fluid around the skull is blocked. In plain English, he had water on the brain. The condition can prove fatal if the pressure exerted by the fluid is not relieved.

"I don't mind saying that I cried my eyes out. I was completely shell-shocked. The surgeon told me that if I wanted to play football again I would have to have an operation. I'd only moved to Celtic in the summer, it was the kind of move I'd waited my whole life for, and I was prepared to do anything to ensure I could play again." He looked across the Parkhead pitch. "I mean, look at this place, it's beautiful. Who'd not want to play football here?"

The doctors were optimistic: if everything went according to plan he could be back in training within three months and ready to play serious football by the New Year. But first there was the operation. Jackson recounts his 45 minutes under the surgeon Philip Barlow's scalpel with all the clarity and relish of someone who has walked away unscathed from a particularly nasty car crash.

"He was the guy who pioneered the operation so I knew I was in good hands. First he drilled a hole in my head and then put a tube in the hole to see what was going on in the there and then he shot a laser at the blockage to make a passageway for the water to escape. If you look at the scan taken after the op you can see the little black mark made by the laser."

He left hospital on September 7 and since then has made a recovery which might have Lazarus looking to his laurels. He returned to training last month — five weeks earlier than expected — and played his first game, at Third Division Ross County on Monday night.

Jackson was consistently brilliant for his former club Hibernian and the fans' reaction to his illness has been inspirational, especially at Celtic. "I'd only played seven games for the club when this happened, yet they have made me feel as though I've been at the club for seven years. Even Rangers fans have written to me, wishing me all the best."

At Ross County, he was cheered on to the pitch, cheered off, and booed constantly throughout, especially after winning a penalty for Celtic in the 24th minute. At a reserve game against St Johnstone two days later he was welcomed on to the pitch to the cry of "Aw' right, brainless?" from an opposition supporter.

As a breed, professional footballers are not overly given to introspection and Jackson confesses to being no different, yet his illness has given time to reflect a little on life. "Maybe it's psychological but I have never felt fitter. I'm 31, I think I've got a few years to go yet and I'm going to enjoy every minute. I'm determined to make the most of the chance I've been given."

That means getting back into Celtic's first team, a difficult task given that the side are settled, happy and sitting top of the Scottish Premier Division. His performances this week have been headline news in Scotland, yet were not enough to persuade Wim Jansen to include him in the squad for today's match at Dunfermline. Was he disappointed?

"You always like to think you're in with a wee chance," he shrugged. "But, hey, things could be worse." They could indeed.

Football

Hartson in the dock as FA defend referee

Don Beer

THE Football Association is likely to come down hard on the West Ham striker John Hartson, whom it has charged with misconduct for his verbal attack on the referee Mike Reed after Monday's Premiership match at Leicester.

Hartson was angry at the performance of the Birmingham official, who booked five Hammers players in a match which Leicester won 2-1 with a late goal from Ian Marshall. He branded Reed "a homer" and said that his performance was a disgrace and that "he deserved a nought-out-of-10 mark".

The former Arsenal player, a Wales international, also said that Reed "had sent me off previously for calling him a shit-house, and I'll stick to my guns".

Hartson tried to backtrack on Wednesday by issuing an apology to Reed in which he claimed his remarks had been made "in the heat of the moment and were not considered".

Reed accepted the apology but referees in general are increasingly concerned about players' behaviour towards them, and the FA clearly feels that Hartson's outburst deserves investigation.

The FA spokesman Steve Double said: "John Hartson has been charged with misconduct in relation to remarks about the referee Mike Reed after Monday's match at Leicester."

Hartson, in prime form with 12 goals this season, has 14 days to decide whether to seek a personal hearing.

The striker refused to comment yesterday but and his agent David Minessy said: "We have followed the advice of the club and that is all we have to say."

The Republic of Ireland full-back Denis Irwin celebrated his 32nd birthday yesterday by extending his Manchester United contract. Irwin, who has been at Old Trafford since 1990, will stay until 1999.

"I feel as fit as ever and I'm delighted the club has extended my deal by another year," he said. "There are no guarantees at United but I am not one who would be happy on the sidelines. I want to play and I believe I can still be there in the new millennium."

Ryan Giggs will not be asked to fly to Brazil for Wales's friendly within hours of United's Premiership clash with Arsenal at Highbury.

Wales face the world champions in Brasilia on November 11 but the manager Bobby Gould, after talks with Giggs and the United manager Alex Ferguson, has not included the winger in a 17-man squad named yesterday. Wales are due to fly to Brazil late next Sunday, only hours after the final whistle at Highbury.

WALES SQUAD: Southall (Everton), P Jones (Southampton), Jenkins (Huddersfield), Page (Watford), A Williams (Wolves), Ready (QPR), Robinson (Charlton), Oster (Everton), A Williams (Southampton), Pembridge (Sheff Wed), Trollope (Derby), Speed (Everton), Hartson (West Ham), Blake (Bolton), M Hughes (Chelsea), Saunders (Nottingham Forest).

A N Other

Performance of the week: Shay Given, whose saves against Belgium gave the Republic of Ireland a World Cup lifeline.

Born near an Orwellian pier, this skilful, quick-thinking midfielder began his career in his home town but soon shook a leg nearby. His aspirations having broadened, somewhat crookedly, he paused briefly by some trees before dipping a toe in coastal waters. A spot of millinery was followed by a period of early closing before he crossed a motorway to knock on wood, with considerable success as it turned out.

Last week: Steve McMahon (Everton, Aston Villa, Liverpool, Manchester City, Swindon Town).

Squad sheet Full guide to the weekend's Premiership fixtures including injury lists, suspended players and betting

Aston Villa v Chelsea

Villa Park 3pm today
Last five League (most recent on right): Aston Villa LDWLD; Chelsea DWLWL
Match odds: Aston Villa 6-4 Chelsea 6-4 Draw 11-5
Referee: S W Dunn (Bristol)

Aston Villa			
	Nelson	**Milosevic**	Hendrie
	Southgate	Grayson	Joachim
	Ehiogu	Bosnich	Hughes
	Staunton	Curcic	Oakes
	Wright	Charles	
	Draper	Scimeca	
	Yorke	Taylor	

Doubtful Bosnich (knee), Taylor (hamstring)
Injured None
Suspended Collymore (returns November 8)

Chelsea			
	De Goey	***Newton***	*Nicholls*
	Sinclair	**M Hughes**	Flo
	Leboeuf	**Zola**	Di Matteo
	Clarke	Hitchcock	Morris
	Granville	Lambourde	
	Babayaro	Gullit	
	Petrescu	Myers	

Doubtful None
Injured Le Saux (elbow, November 22), Duberry (ankle, November 22), P Hughes (ankle, November 22), Poyet (knee ligaments, 1998)
Suspended Vass (November 8), Vialli (November 22)

Everton v Southampton

Goodison Park 4pm tomorrow
Last five: Everton LDLWD; Southampton LLWLW
Match odds: Everton 4-5 Southampton 3-1 Draw 9-4
Referee: A B Wilkie (Chester-le-Street)

Everton			
	Southall	**Stuart**	McCann
	Barrett	**Speed**	Barrett
	Short	**Ferguson**	Thomas
	Watson	**Cadamarteri**	Dunne
	Hinchcliffe	Gerrard	Branch
	Oster	Ball	Phelan
	Williamson	Barmby	◆Bilic

Doubtful Bilic (unwell)
Injured Farrelly (knee, November 22), Grant (shin, November 22), Parkinson (knee, August 98)
Suspended None

Southampton			
	Jones	**Oakley**	Johansen
	Dodd	**Le Tissier**	Taylor
	Benali	**Hirst**	Hughes
	Monkou	**Davies**	Neilson
	Lundekvam	Williams	
	Richardson	Slater	
	Palmer	Charlton	

Doubtful None
Injured Ostenstad (ankle, December 20)
Suspended None

Tottenham Hotspur v Leeds United

White Hart Lane 3pm today
Last five: Tottenham DDLWL; Leeds WWDWL
Match odds: Tottenham 5-4 Leeds 7-4 Draw 9-4
Referee: K W Burge (Tonypandy)

Tottenham Hotspur			
	Walker	**Ginola**	Clemence
	Carr	**Armstrong**	Anderton
	Campbell	Baardsen	Fox
	Scales	Calderwood	Fenn
	Edinburgh	Vega	Dominguez
	Howells	Mabbutt	Iversen
	Sinton	Nielsen	

Doubtful Vega (thigh), Dominguez (knee)
Injured Ferdinand (stomach, November 24), Allen (ankle, November 24), Austin (knee, December 20)
Suspended None

Leeds United			
	Martyn	**Ribeiro**	Lilley
	Kelly	**Kewell**	Harte
	Wetherall	**Wallace**	Jackson
	Radebe	Halle	Gray
	Robertson	Molenaar	Beeney
	Hopkin	Bowyer	Maybury
	Haaland	Hasselbaink	

Doubtful Halle (groin)
Injured Jobson (knee, December 13), Sharpe (knee, August 1998)
Suspended None

Barnsley v Blackburn Rovers

Oakwell 3pm today
Last five: Barnsley LLLWL; Blackburn DDWWD
Match odds: Barnsley 10-3 Blackburn 8-11 Draw 9-4
Referee: G Poll (Tring)

Barnsley			
	Watson	**◆Sheridan**	Hendrie
	Eaden	**Barnard**	Marcelle
	De Zeeuw	**Kristov**	Liese
	Krizan	Liddell	
	Thompson	Ward	
	Bullock	Appleby	
	Redfearn	Bosancic	

Doubtful Ward (virus), Liddell (virus)
Injured Davis (leg, November 8), Tinkler (hamstring, November 8)
Suspended Ten Heuvel (November 8)

Blackburn Rovers			
	Flowers	**Sherwood**	Fettis
	Valery	Duff	Wilcox
	◆Flitcroft	Pedersen	Kenna
	Henchoz	Gallacher	
	Hendry	McKinlay	
	Sutton	Bohinen	
	Ripley	Croft	

Doubtful None
Injured Dahlin (back, November 8), Filan (broken arm, 1998)
Suspended None

Manchester United v Sheffield Wed

Old Trafford 3pm today
Last five: Manchester United DLWDW; Sheffield Wed LDWLL
Match odds: Manchester United 1-3 Sheffield Wed 6-1 Draw 3-1
Referee: G R Ashby (Worcester)

Manchester United			
	Schmeichel	**Solskjaer**	P Neville
	Irwin	**Cole**	McClair
	Butt	**◆Scholes**	Van der Gouw
	Beckham	Curtis	
	Giggs	Sheringham	
	G Neville	Cruyff	
	Pallister	Poborsky	

Doubtful Berg (buttock), Irwin (thigh)
Injured Johnsen (calf, November 8), Keane (knee, August 1998)
Suspended None

Sheffield Wed			
	Pressman	**Collins**	Blondeau
	Newsome	**Nolan**	Stefanovic
	Walker	Whittingham	Humphreys
	Pembridge	Briscoe	Oakes
	Di Canio	Grobbelaar	Donaldson
	Carbone	Nicol	
	Magilton	Rudi	

Doubtful Briscoe (groin)
Injured Hyde (Achilles, November 8), Clarke (hernia, November 22), Booth (knee, November 22), Atherton (knee, 1998)
Suspended None

Wimbledon v Coventry City

Selhurst Park 3pm today
Last five: Wimbledon DLWDW; Coventry DDDLD
Match odds: Wimbledon 8-11 Coventry 10-3 Draw 9-4
Referee: U D Rennie (Sheffield)

Wimbledon			
	Sullivan	**Cort**	C Hughes
	Cunningham	Heald	Castledine
	Perry	Gayle	Ardley
	Blackwell	Thatcher	Clarke
	Jones	McAllister	
	Earle	Fear	
	Ekoku	M Hughes	

Doubtful None
Injured Kimble (hamstring, November 8), Goodman (knee ligaments, 1998), Euell (shoulder, 1998)
Suspended None

Coventry City			
	Ogrizovic	**Salako**	Hedman
	Shaw	Soltvedt	Boland
	Burrows	Johansen	Ducros
	Williams	Lightbourne	Haworth
	McAllister	Huckerby	Telfer
	Hall	Nilsson	
	Dublin	Breen	

Doubtful Nilsson (arm), Breen (knee), Telfer (ankle)
Injured Daish (knee, November 22), Whelan (ankle, December 13)
Suspended None

Bolton Wanderers v Liverpool

Reebok Stadium 3pm today
Last five: Bolton DDLLW; Liverpool WLWLW
Match odds: Bolton 9-4 Liverpool evens Draw 9-4
Referee: D J Gallagher (Banbury)

Bolton Wanderers			
	Branagan	**Pollock**	Taylor
	Bergsson	Beardsley	Aljofree
	Whitlow	McAnespie	
	Fish	McGinlay	
	Holdsworth	Phillips	
	Frandsen	Johansen	
	Blake	Ward	

Doubtful None
Injured Cox (hamstring, November 29), Fairclough (knee, December 26), Sheridan (knee, December 26), Elliott (broken leg, August 98)
Suspended Todd (November 8), Sellars (November 29), Taggart (December 14)

Liverpool			
	James	**Owen**	Nielsen
	Jones	**Leonhardsen**	Berger
	Kvarme	**Matteo**	Riedle
	Bjornebye	Ruddock	McAteer
	◆Ince	Murphy	
	McManaman	Thomas	
	Fowler	Harkness	

Doubtful None
Injured Carragher (ankle, November 8), Wright (back, November 15), Babb (ribs, November 22)
Suspended None

Newcastle United v Leicester City

St James' Park 3pm today
Last five: Newcastle WLWLD; Leicester DWLLW
Match odds: Newcastle 4-6 Leicester 10-3 Draw 5-2
Referee: G S Willard (Worthing)

Newcastle United			
	Given	Hislop	Beresford
	Barton	Srnicek	Gillespie
	Peacock	Howey	Hughes
	Watson	Albert	Brayson
	Batty	Hamilton	Rush
	Lee	Ketsbaia	
	Tomasson	Barnes	

Doubtful Rush (knee), Gillespie (calf)
Injured Asprilla (stomach, November 22), Pearce (hamstring, November 22), Pistone (ankle, November 22), Shearer (ankle, March 1998)
Suspended None

Leicester City			
	Arphexad	**Heskey**	Fenton
	Prior	Claridge	McMahon
	Elliott	Whitlow	Guppy
	Kaamark	Watts	Wilson
	Izzet	Parker	Cottee
	Lennon	Campbell	Ullathorne
	Marshall	Savage	

Doubtful Claridge (knee)
Injured Keller (thumb, November 29), Walsh (ribs, November 29), Taylor (knee, August 1998)
Suspended None

FA Premiership table

		Home				Away					
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Man Utd	12	5	1	0	17	3	2	3	1	6	3	17	25
Arsenal	12	4	2	0	15	1	2	4	0	12	9	17	24
Blackburn	12	3	2	1	13	7	3	3	0	9	3	12	23
Leicester	12	3	3	1	11	7	3	0	2	5	3	6	21
Chelsea	11	3	0	1	8	5	3	1	3	17	10	10	19
Liverpool	11	4	0	1	14	5	1	3	2	6	7	8	18
Derby	11	3	2	0	11	4	2	0	4	8	11	4	17
Leeds	12	2	1	3	6	7	3	1	2	9	6	2	17
Wimbledon	12	2	2	3	7	7	2	2	1	7	6	1	16
Newcastle	9	4	1	1	7	5	1	0	2	2	5	-1	16
West Ham	12	4	0	1	10	4	1	1	5	6	15	-3	16
Crystal Palace	12	0	2	3	3	8	4	1	2	9	6	-2	15
Aston Villa	12	2	1	2	6	9	2	1	4	6	8	-5	14
Tottenham	12	3	2	1	7	6	0	2	4	4	10	-5	13
Coventry	12	2	5	0	8	6	0	2	3	0	7	-5	13
Everton	11	3	1	2	11	9	0	2	3	2	7	-3	12
Bolton	11	1	3	1	2	2	1	2	3	7	13	-8	11
Southampton	12	3	1	3	9	9	0	0	5	2	11	-9	10
Sheff Wed	12	2	1	3	8	12	0	2	4	9	17	-12	9
Barnsley	12	2	0	4	5	14	1	0	5	4	21	-26	9

Player in the frame

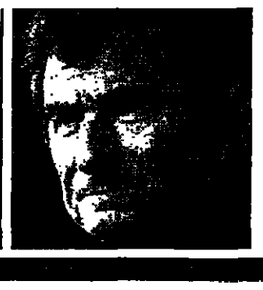
Chris Sutton
The Blackburn striker has an opportunity to overtake the suspended Dennis Bergkamp as the leading Premiership goalscorer at Barnsley this afternoon

The week's transfers

Micky Evans Southampton to West Brom £750,000; **Gary Walsh** Middlesbrough to Bradford £500,000; **Micky Mellon** Blackpool to Tranmere £300,000; **Neil Maddison** Southampton to Middlesbrough £250,000; **Mark Patterson** Plymouth to Gillingham £150,000; **Andy Saville** Wigan to Cardiff £70,000; **Nick Cusack** Fulham to Swansea £30,000; **Ivano Bonetti** Crystal Palace to Genoa free; **Billy Clark** Bristol Rovers to Exeter City free; **John O'Kane** Manchester United to Bradford loan; **Gareth Griffiths** Port Vale to Shrewsbury loan; **Ian McInnes** Albion to Stranraer loan

Probable starters in bold; contenders, probable substitutes and other squad members in light. ◆ one more booking will earn suspension

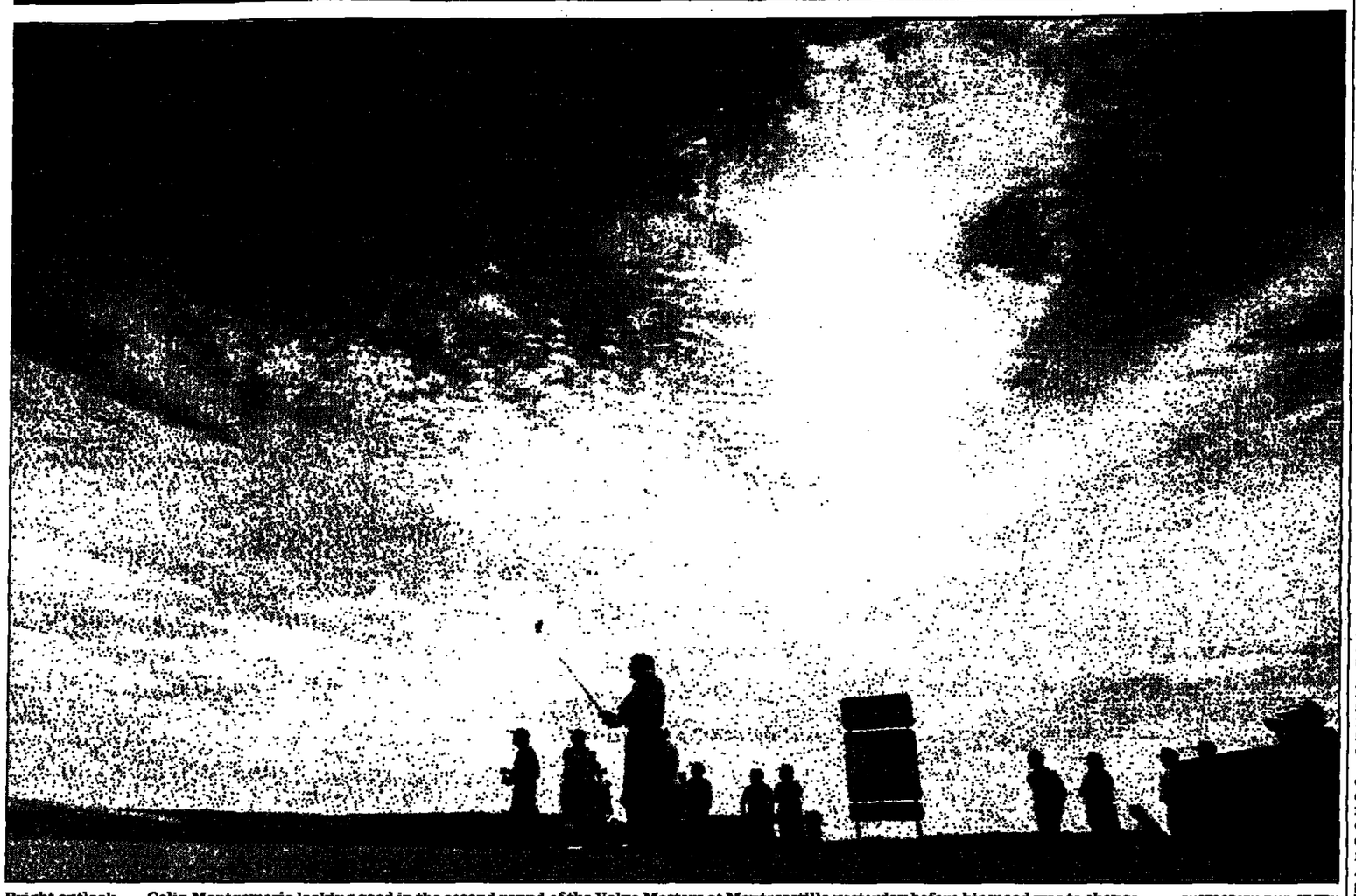
Strength in depth
Dallaglio leads from the front
24



Psycho babble
Pleat's guide to player motivation
23

The Guardian
sport
www.football.guardian.co.uk

Volvo Masters



Bright outlook . . . Colin Montgomerie looking good in the second round of the Volvo Masters at Montecastillo yesterday before his mood was to change PHOTOGRAPH: PAUL SEVERN

Wayward Monty in a mood

David Davies in Jerez sees the Scot get angry after he is ruled out of bounds and scores an eight

COLIN Montgomerie, moody as always but far from magnificent yesterday, took an eight at Montecastillo's 16th hole, a triple bogey that has seriously dented his chances of winning the Volvo Masters. It could also seriously affect his chances of winning an unprecedented fifth successive European Tour title.

Montgomerie, leading the tournament at the time on 11 under par, hit an eight-iron second shot so far off line that it finished some 25 yards out of bounds.

The three shots he was to drop on that hole meant that he slipped to joint 11th, four shots behind the leaders Patrik Sjoland and Lee Westwood. They finished on 132, 12 under par.

One of the players with whom the Scot shares 11th place is Bernhard Langer, who at the time that Montgomerie was taking his eight was birdying the 18th to pick up four shots on the man he must beat to have any chance of winning the European title himself.

Montgomerie's behaviour on the 16th — and later at the 19th — was close to inexplicable. The 16th is a par five at which the players need only a short iron for their shots to the green, but from thickish rough the Scot pull-hooked his ball into a ploughed field. It clearly was not a part of a golf course but Montgomerie, seeing no out-of-bounds posts, called for a ruling.

The first official, on arrival, was told brusquely by Montgomerie: "I don't see any fence here. I'm not out-of-bounds, okay? If you haven't marked the course properly, that's not my fault. It's as simple as that."

But it wasn't. Two other rules officials proffered their pennysworth and were ignored and finally the formidable figure of John Paramor, the tour's chief referee, was called in. He took one brief look, immediately told Montgomerie he was out of bounds and said later: "He was anything up to 30 yards out. There were no out-of-bounds posts there because I don't think it was contemplated that anyone would ever go there."

Black moment . . . Montgomerie in deep trouble at the 16th

Montgomerie now had to play his provisional ball, which was stuck in long grass on the downslope of a bunker. All he could do was chop it into the sand and when he then failed to hole the 10-foot putt his recovery shot gave him he had an eight.

Meanwhile Westwood, Montgomerie's playing partner, was waiting to take a 60-foot eagle putt, which he missed, but the 24-year-old Englishman got his birdie, plus another at the last, for his share of the lead.

Later Westwood stood, smiling quizzically, as the press contingent swarmed around the grounds and the passageways of the Montecastillo hotel trying to find the sulking Scot, who had gone to ground after signing his card.

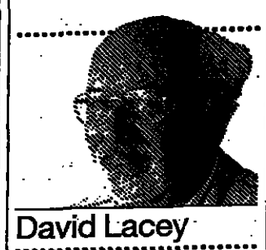
It was 45 minutes before he emerged, showing no obvious signs of having recovered. "I had 163 yards to the pin for my second shot but I got a flier and it went 190," he said. "I needed time for myself. I think that was wise. I couldn't have won it today and I certainly haven't lost it. Okay?" Without waiting for an answer he stomped off.

Earlier Westwood had experienced his own drama. While prospecting a chip shot at the 12th he noticed on his return to his ball that it was not in the position in which he had left it. A ruling went in his favour but while the two players were waiting for the official to arrive Montgomerie remarked: "The rules of golf have never made sense." That opinion may have led to his extraordinary behaviour four holes later.

Darren Clarke, who was largely forgotten in the preliminaries to this tournament but is the only other player who, in the right combination of circumstances, can win the European title, at least gave himself a chance of that yesterday with an eight-under-par 64.

Clarke has to win the tournament to take the title, with Langer and Montgomerie well down the prize money, and he said yesterday: "I don't really know what they have to do, just that I have to win. It should be an interesting weekend."

Refs right to see red over pushy players



David Lacey

LONG ago somebody composed a piece of doggerel about football referees based on a nursery rhyme concerning the fate of 10 minors of African origin. The last verse ran:

One little referee from
nothing ever flinched,
They said he knew the laws
too well
And so he was lynched.

Last weekend this came close to reality. A referee was stoned by an angry crowd and had to be smuggled out of the stadium by police.

The incident occurred in Brazil. In England, Premiership and Nationwide League referees are frequently assailed by verbal brickbats but outright assaults are rare.

Yet problems continue to exist lower down the scale, often leading to the premature retirement of budding referees fed up with being physically threatened by Sunday-morning wannabes. So when Arsenal's Emmanuel Petit gets a red card from Paul Durkin for a mild shove in the chest on a Sunday afternoon, the Football Association cannot dismiss the matter lightly.

Recently a schoolboy player of 10 or 11 received a long suspension for pulling a referee's arm after a decision had gone against him. The sentence was suspended so long as the youngster behaved himself, but his father still waxed indignant on television while the kid pulled a face.

Petit, already facing a three-match ban for the red card, may miss another three games if he is found guilty of misconduct. Last season Birmingham City's Gary Poole was suspended for four games and fined £1,000 for pushing the Huddersfield referee Richard Poulain.

The FA does not like its officials being manhandled, as Vince Hilaire of Crystal Palace and Manchester United's Ashley Grimes discovered in the early Eighties.

Referees have enough to put up with as it is. To judge from statements made this week, football's grouse season is again upon us. John Hartson, the leading scorer in the Premiership, called Mike Reed "a homer", a "disgrace" and an "absolute joke" after West Ham lost at Leicester on Monday. Although the referee has since accepted his apology, the FA is charging Hartson with misconduct.

Colin Todd, the manager of Bolton Wanderers, has lost a centre-half, Gerry Taggart, for six matches, the player having been sent off while collecting five yellow cards. But far from blaming Taggart, Todd condemned the new disciplinary set-up, pointing out that under the previous system the defender would not have accumulated enough points for suspension.

This would appear to justify the change to a simpler type of justice. Football, however, is going through another of those hyperactive, hysterical phases when responses are seldom rational and everybody starts grumbling once the disciplinary processes begin to bite.

"ARSENAL stars ordered: Cool it!" This headline appeared over a report concerning problems at Highbury. "Discipline must be maintained," declared the Arsenal manager, who on being appointed had promised entertaining football and more besides. "We must create new standards of human behaviour," he said. "Soccer is a mirror of our society."

Well said, Arsène Wenger — except that this was Terry Neill speaking more than 20 years ago. Now Neill has warned his old club that their outbreak of red and yellow cards could cost them the championship. With Petit and Dennis Bergkamp, who begins a three-match ban today, due to miss the visit of Manchester United tomorrow week, Neill has a point.

A period of calm reflection would do the Premiership no harm. Fat chance of that in a game increasingly fed on hyperbolic steroids.

Dallaglio's new love affair

Robert Armstrong on rugby union's leading man

NO OTHER country would hedge their bets in the way England have done over the appointment of Lawrence Dallaglio as captain merely "for the foreseeable future", as the manager Roger Uttley put it this week before adding, "but we don't know how that future is defined".

As the All Blacks prepare to set off for the United Kingdom this weekend, public reaction in New Zealand has been one of amused incomprehension tinged with scorn. Why, ask the Kiwis, choose a new captain with a terrific track record of personal success and in the same breath suggest he might have to give way to Leicester's Martin Johnson if England start losing?

If Dallaglio feels disconcerted by England's strangely half-hearted endorsement he is not saying. The 25-year-old Wasps flanker was as composed as ever after the announcement. This 6ft 4in, 16st 12lb Londoner draws strength from his belief in his ability and from his recent achievements as captain of Wasps. Unlike the England selectors he, when he comes to a decision, makes it stick.

It is well documented that Dallaglio loves all things Italian as a result of his Italian parentage — he also believes Italy should join the Five Nations — but no player takes greater pride in wearing the England shirt. When England won the inaugural World Cup Sevens in 1993 the then 20-year-old Wasp was one of the team who turned themselves from 20-1 outsiders into champions on the back of a patriotic surge of adrenalin.

But this week he turned his mind to the senior 15-a-side version. "If we look at the wider picture our objective has to be to win the next World Cup. What we need to develop is a clearly signposted route that shows us how that goal can be achieved.

"Our next four internationals will certainly show us who can, and cannot, operate at the level required to take England forward. These back-to-back games against the major southern hemisphere nations are the closest we can get to what it's like to play in the World Cup. I think that's why they've been arranged on successive weekends.

"Clive [Woodward] wants players to pick themselves for England by performing well for their clubs every week. If everyone is playing consistently well, that makes life difficult for the selectors but it's an ideal position for them to be in.

"I believe that captaincy ultimately depends on collective responsibility. After all, everyone is buying into the same objectives and trying to achieve the same things."

Coaches who have worked with Dallaglio invariably pay tribute to his remarkable maturity and to the respect he is given by older players. The real measure of his ability was the way he transformed Wasps after the club were reduced to chaos in 1996 by the high-profile defections of Rob Andrew, Dean Ryan and a clutch of international players.

'The best teams in the world are packed with guys who perform well week in, week out and make the right decisions at the right time'

"When I took on the captaincy of Wasps I became the focus of the turnaround but I can assure you the team were incredibly efficient on and off the pitch, which was the main reason why we won the league in the first fully professional season. England too are trying to create an environment that breeds success; the aim is to leave nothing to chance and to pay maximum attention to detail. When you look at the reasons why Wasps and the Lions have been so successful this year, you discover that was also their strategy.

"At international level the captain must be able to draw on everyone's ability to make decisions under pressure. The best teams in the world are packed with guys who perform well week in, week out and make the right decisions at the right time.

"If you had to pick out a successful captain it would be Sean Fitzpatrick. New Zealand are the in-form team at the moment, having won the Tri-Nations series and the Bledisloe Cup. They are on top of their game, they know where they're going and Fitzpatrick can take tremendous credit for that; his influence and experience have always been apparent.

"I also have respect for the Australian captain John Eales and South Africa's Gary Teichmann, whom I played against with the Lions. They're all looking to come here and do well, but I don't think any member of the England squad believes we cannot win all our games. I'd like to think that each time we take the field we are absolutely confident we can get the right result."

His three Test appearances for the Lions in South Africa represent the pinnacle of Dallaglio's career to date — surprisingly he was not picked for the 1995 World Cup — but he does not linger on past glories. "A total of 22 Englishmen enjoyed the Lions experience but that tour is history now. We need to move on," he said.

"Yes, it was great to win the series but it also showed the margin between success and failure is very thin. We need to take the good things out of that tour and use them to our advantage. For instance, I believe our A internationals against New Zealand are very important. .

"For the moment we're not looking beyond our first Test against Australia. It's ironic that we're playing Australia again so soon but it's a superb chance to measure ourselves against the best."

Guardian COLLINS Crossword 21,110

A copy of the Collins English Dictionary will be sent to the first five correct entries drawn. Entries to The Guardian Crossword, P.O. Box 14641, London, EC1R 3JX, or Fax to 0171 278 9115 by first post on Friday. Solution and winners in the Guardian on Monday November 10.

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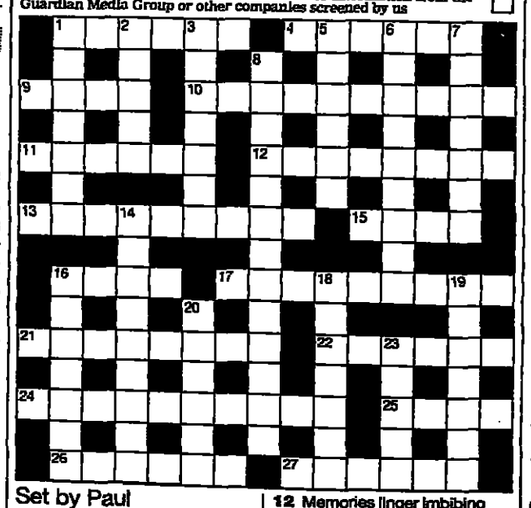


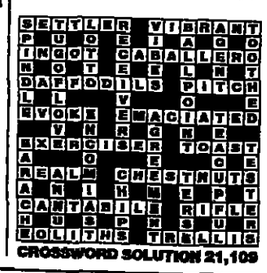
Set by Paul

Across

1 Aristocrats gaining admission by force (6)
4 See 26
9 See 27
10 There's not any retreat after Englishman abroad grabs bird — that's a remarkable thing! (10)
11 Heavy food, for instance Dorothy's turnover (6)
12 Memories linger imbibing wine (8)
13 Boxer wants the missus no more, according to 7 (9)
15 German river means nothing to the German (4)
16 Some art at exhibition (4)
17 One serves drinks with skill during drinking session (9)
21 Ring perhaps for top telephonist (8)
22 At times I don't know the way around (6)
24 Musical modulation may be achieved by Greek or Chinamen (10)
25 River in the country overlooking the capital (4)
26,4 Darts display? Or where darts displayed (3,3,5)
27,9 Drudgery evident when employing 7's bent Scottish dagger (6-4)

Down

1 Free tollgate? Not quite — stop (7)
2 Moved in a sigmoid fashion (topless), then all revealed (5)
3 Funereal note that is in transposed concertos (7)
5 Sound traffic routes in the Aegean Sea (6)
6 Even load distributed about right? Wrong! (9)
7 A reverend's ship parking where church should be (7)
8 Police authority to look for top war artist, sent packing (6,7)
14 According to 7, the Vice President has to be patient for presidential downfall (9)
16 Bow — behead never through the ears (7)
18 That which explorer brought over with poisonous fumes? (7)
19 E for extreme exhilaration? (7)
20 Pen for setter, one in hamper (6)
23 Prepare chicken, perhaps, for what chicken won't show? (5)



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